



Ho-Chunk Nation
Language revitalized
by Nintendo DSi



Page 4

*Merry
Christmas*
from the Hocak Worak Staff

NEW
YEAR'S EVE
CELEBRATION
POW-WOW
Monroe County Fairgrounds (Yellow Bldg) Tomah, WI

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Elders meet to share knowledge

How often do our Elders get asked what they think?

Sanford LittleEagle
Staff Writer

On December 1, 2011 over two dozen Elders and Language Apprentice speakers were invited to attend a listening session held by JoAnn Jones; to help and assist with the Ho-Chunk Nation language curriculum that can be taught in the schools. The intent was to allow Elders to voice their opinion and a rare chance to give some input about our language.

Jones set the bar and pace for a new direction. Working as the ANA Grants Coordinator, she said, "Developing Curriculum for our Ho-Chunk Language is an accomplishment by itself." The Culture Based Language Materials Project is developing a curriculum for schools but is developing it with everyone in mind. The materials will be made available to every tribal member. The best way to learn a Language is to have been introduced to it at birth. Currently, many of our Ho-Chunk speakers have been speaking the language since birth.

Often times, when attending Lan-

guage Conferences or other tribal conferences, one of the recurring stories heard from Elders is, "My parents wanted me to learn how to speak (English) and go to school." While many of our grandparents and parents have identical stories, Chokas and Gagas permitted our Fathers and Mothers to not learn Ho-Chunk; it wasn't spoken as often in the home and over time the language has gone unspoken. Another key factor to losing the language has been inter-racial marriages, or marrying into another tribe.

The Language and Culture Division has been working to revitalize the Ho-Chunk Language and have been using many new methods of producing more materials and optimizing tools that will reach the novice of speakers. But sometimes, there is need to reflect on the past to ensure a future for our Ho-Chunk Language.

So on December 1, the day was pretty gloomy and roads were a bit slick with big snowflakes falling to the ground. But, a little bit of snow didn't stop several Ho-Chunk elders from around Wisconsin to travel to Mauston to meet up with each other, socialize, and get down to business to discuss the future of the Ho-Chunk language. Inside it was

packed full of life. To be sitting with so many elders and to listen to them converse all in Ho-Chunk was amazing. There was over 500 years worth of language knowledge in the room, all I could do was sit in silence and listen.

One by one, different Elders spoke of how the language has been used in their homes, in their life, and how it was passed down to them. Many reflected on their parents, and their grandparents who took care of them. It was everyday life to use the language.

However, this was not the first meeting. JoAnn had been going from home to home visiting with many elders. In visiting these elder's homes, she said everyone wanted to help and shared their stories with her. In the near future, she hopes to record their stories and talks.

In speaking with JoAnn, I asked her what she thought about the new ways of learning (the language) through Apps, Gaming Systems, and with our current curriculum. She said, "You have to approach Ho-Chunk language in a lot of different ways. Our young people are living a new generation. This generation includes technology, iPads, cell phones, and computers. If we can use that to



JoAnn Jones "We have to keep the Ho-Chunk language alive. We're keeping it alive. We've got to teach our children Ho-Chunk, even if it is one word that helps."

help the young people now, they can have Ho-Chunk Language in there (the platforms), and the Language will be accessible through those games and applications. I think it's exciting the new technology is here. The world is changing."

There was a luncheon served and some good joking and laughing. Out of gratitude, JoAnn presented everyone with Ho-Chunk baskets as tokens of thanks for attending.

In closing, JoAnn said, "It was so awesome, I almost cried when I saw all their interest and their presence here. They thought so much of their language and came to help. I am so thankful to the Elders for coming and participating."



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(Front L-R) Alvina Foss, Fred Mallory, Annabelle Lowe and Tom Hopinkah. (Middle L-R) Marian Miner, Lillian Thundercloud, and Geri Swan. (Back L-R) Toree Jones, JoAnn Jones, Hank Swan, Jack Monegar and Lera Hopinkah.

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President Greendeer participates in White House Tribal Nations Conference

Submitted by Anne Thundercloud – HCN Public Relations Officer

President Greendeer represented Ho-Chunk Nation at the White House Tribal Nations Conference held in Washington, DC on Dec. 2. The third annual event is by invitation only and affords tribal leaders the opportunity

to directly engage with the President on a leader-to-leader, government-to-government basis.

"The work to keep our place in front of Indian country must continue in our ties to federal legislation and national leaders must be strengthened by our keen ability to foster and

build strong relationships," President Greendeer said.

Vice President Greg Blackdeer joined the Ho-Chunk Nation President in his trip to the nation's capital, where both attended hearings and briefings scheduled throughout the few days leading up to the one day event.

"Before the Nation can hit the hill, we must secure a firm position on issues that affect those we serve and those we employ. We must absorb a steady diet of information through alerts and dialogue followed by formal action," Greendeer said, "the content of the 2011 White House Tribal Nations Conference provides sufficient framework for which to build our nation's national agenda."

President Greendeer, in a meeting closed to the media, addressed BIA Director Michael Black concerning the



President Greendeer and NCAI President Jefferson Keel at the White House Tribal Nations Conference.

Badger Army Ammunition Plant.

"The Nation is not looking for an apology but for a solution and a commitment to work with us and fulfill the trust responsibility," the President said.

The President added that Mr. Black assured the Nation he would make the journey to Wisconsin to explore a solution and that the Nation would follow up on Black's commitment.



Vice President Blackdeer and President Greendeer outside the nation's capitol.

Michael Rave nominated as Executive Director of Administration

Submitted by Anne Thundercloud – HCN Public Relations Officer
Black River Falls, WI -

On December 6, President Greendeer nominated tribal member Michael Rave as Executive Director of Administration. The Legislature accepted the President's nomination and has 30 days to schedule a confirmation hearing.

"Mr. Rave has already shown great initiative and I'm impressed by his aptitude," President Greendeer said, "he has the experience, capacity and the energy that is essential to leading this very important position with the Nation. Once confirmed,

we can really get the ball rolling to better serve the government operation and tribal membership."

Profile
Rave, an Iraq war veteran, has served ten years as office manager of Ho-Chunk Nation Division of Veterans Affairs, helping to coordinate veterans' benefits.

In 1999, Rave enrolled at UW-Eau Claire but said he felt a calling to enlist in the Army after a year and served in the Reserves while working at a home improvement center. By 2003, he had returned to Black River Falls and began working for the Ho-Chunk Nation helping his fellow veterans. Duty in Iraq

prompted Rave to take a leave of absence and the Nation held his job while he served his military duty.

During a deployment in 2005 through 2006, Sergeant Rave was assigned to Task Force Gator. As a part of this Task Force, Sergeant Rave worked with Coalition Forces from 28 individual countries. At that time, Rave worked closely with these coalition members to prepare them for duty in the Iraq Theater of Operations. As part of these preparatory requirements, Rave conducted assessments of their needs to include levels of training to complete mission requirements, basic equipment issue, weapons

proficiency, medical training, convoy operation training, and enemy engagement training.

"As a veteran, I am grateful for what Ho-Chunk Nation has done for my family and me," Rave says, "growing up, I saw service members coming back without direction. There was a lack of veteran services to tribal members. That sparked my interest in how I could help transition them to civilian life".

Since his return to civilian life, Rave earned a criminal justice baccalaureate degree at Herzing University, while providing services to his fellow veterans. Rave is also



Michael Rave

a part-time police officer in Black River Falls and working toward an MBA. He is the sixth of seven children of Jessie and Maynard Rave, Sr. of Black River Falls, WI.

Ci nak hira kara

Early this week members of legislature (Forrest Whiterabbit, Greg Littlejohn, Heidi Frechette-legislative attorney) visited Kenneth Munson, who serves as Regional Director (RD) of the Region V Office of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS). Mr. Munson was appointed by HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius on October 4, 2011. Region V covers almost 20% of the U.S. population, and is composed of Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio and Wisconsin.

HHS is the federal government's lead agency for protecting the health of all Americans and providing essential human services, especially for those who are least able to help themselves. The Department has over

300 programs covering a wide spectrum of activities including public health, health care, financing, family support, social services, emergency preparedness and food and drug safety.

As Regional Director, Mr. Munson represents HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius in Region V. Mr. Munson plays a vital role in the Department's continued work with states to implement the Affordable Care Act and acts as a representative of the Secretary in direct official dealings with State, local and Tribal government organizations, and other external partners in the Region. He establishes and maintains working relationships with Governors, Mayors, other key State, local and Tribal officials

and community leaders, and seeks opportunities to build effective partnerships.

Mr. Munson makes recommendations and advises HHS policy decisions based upon his keen understanding of human service and health care delivery systems.

As the Nation has many intergovernmental relations and partnerships (decisions are made jointly where joint interests are involved); the assumption is the Ho-Chunk Nation and other governments (state, county, townships) can work together in a relationship of mutual respect to determine what's best for both. This is easier said than actually done and the partnerships are hard to accomplish but very rewarding when there is a benefit at the end of the road.

I would like to leave with



Ho-Chunk Nation meets Regional Director, Office of the Secretary U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services. (L-R) Heidi Frechette - Legislative attorney, Forrest Whiterabbit - representative, Robert TwoBears - District Representative, Kenneth Munson Regional Director, Greg Littlejohn - representative

this...

The world is always changing
Every day it is changing
Everything in life is changing
We have to look inside
ourselves to find what stays
the same...
...such as loyalty...

...our shared history...

...our love for each other...
In them, the truth of the past
lives on.

Let us unite and look to the
future...

Ci nak hira kara

Behavioral Health Division reaches new heights

Submitted by Anne Thundercloud – HCN Public Relations Officer

In 2010, the Ho-Chunk Nation Alcohol/Drug Program and Mental Health Program combined to create the Behavioral Health Division within the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health. The division has recently earned its accreditation, reports Executive Director of Health Dr. Alec Thundercloud.

"This is certainly good news for the Nation," Dr. Thundercloud said, "it will help us coordinate better care for our clients who are

suffering from alcohol and drug addiction by providing improved case management and addressing other issues such as housing, employment, and education to provide more wrap around services to keep families safe and intact."

According to Alcohol/Drug Program (ADP) Director Terry Greendeer, the Nation's ADP has been certified since 1992. "Back then, we went through transitions to get everything in order within one year. We became more credible after gaining our certification. It took a lot of work and we really got

focused into elevating our program," Greendeer said.

Greendeer, who has been with ADP since 1993, also said that combining both programs under Behavioral Health allowed the Nation to seek a new accreditation, which would certify both programs.

Being a certified agency allows the health department to charge third party billing for behavioral health services provided. "This is generating revenue for the tribe," Greendeer said.

"One missing component to the Behavioral Health

Division was oversight by a psychiatrist. Currently, we have a psychiatrist available at the House of Wellness which has been met with tremendous success and we'll be extending psychiatric services through telemedicine at the Ho-Chunk Health Care Center in Black River Falls," Dr. Thundercloud added, "as we continue to build on this momentum for BHD we hope to build a whole centralized behavioral health campus to expand services to children, youth, adults and elders.

Behavioral Health Director Julie Abbot-Jones added,

"the purpose is not to have the piece of paper on the wall. The purpose is to provide quality services to the members."

Behavioral Health provides AODA and mental health individual therapy, Intoxicated Driver groups, Cognitive Behavioral groups for males and female correctional clients, motivational interviewing groups, Intervention, Anger Management groups, Community Youth AODA Prevention Education and referral to inpatient treatment services.

WARNING: Instant cup of soup

Submitted by Kiana Beaudin, PA-C, HCN House of Wellness Clinic

In the colder months we all enjoy a nice bowl of soup. One of the most convenient ways is to use the instant cup of noodle soup in which you simply add hot water. Unfortunately, the cups are light weight and prone to spills.

Burn centers see severe burns on a weekly basis due to these cups of soup. The most common victims of these accidents are young children. As we all know, young children frequently make messes and spill things. The combination of young children and hot liquid in a container that easily spills in many instances proves to be a disastrous one. The soup generally spills onto the individual with the potential to severely burn their chest, torso, arms, face, neck, legs

and privates.

According to a study conducted at Baltimore Regional Burn Center, the length of hospital stay was twice as long for a noodle soup burn than a burn from hot liquids alone. They found that the noodles stick to the skin, causing more serious burns. One in five people required surgery. Possible long term effects include scarring and limited mobility of joints involved in the burn.

In order to prevent burns please consider allowing the soup (or beverage) to properly cool. You may place it in the freezer or add ice cubes to speed up the process. Also consider transferring the instant soups to bowls which aren't as easy to knock over. Do not eat/drink hot liquids while holding a young child.

If someone does suffer a burn:

DO NOT

Use cold water or ice on the burn, this can damage the skin more

Use first aid creams, ointments, butter, toothpaste. This traps heat and makes the burn worse

DO

Use room temperature or cool water.

Remove wet clothing immediately, if left on.

Do not use first aid creams, ointments, this can make the burn worse by trapping heat.

Seek medical attention for any burn that is larger than the burn victim's palm, or are burned on the hands, feet, face or private areas.



From the House of Wellness Clinic Staff

Attention: The Next Deadline of the Hocak Worak will be Dec. 23rd which will be published on Dec. 30th. Please contact Enrollment at ext. 1015 if you have a change of address or would like to be placed on the mailing list.

December Elders Birthdays		
1 Gilman Lincoln Jr.	11 Eileen Blackdeer	23 Levi Blackdeer
2 Carol Calkins	12 Edward Lone Tree Jr.	24 Ralph Decorah
3 Eliot Littlejohn	Chloris Lowe Sr.	Mary Myers
4 Timothy Thompson	Virzena Kofol	Christina LaMere
5 Cecelia Dobbs	Byron Steele	25 Ron Anwash
6 Leslie Pettibone	13 Rosemarie Davison	James Hellerud
7 Dale White Eagle	Lorenzo Funmaker	Dorothy Young
8 Sharon Thompson	15 Amelia Ortiz	Meredith Decorah
9 Wanda Rose	LaVinna Romeno	27 Joy Buck
10 Don Whitewater	16 Harriet Funmaker	Keith Dick
Rose Marie Funmaker	17 Melford Rockman	28 Gary Lonetree Sr.
Andrew Delarosa	18 Gloria Visintin	29 Emma Weise
8 Jess Whitewater	Jean Climer	Sharyn Buchanan
Margaret Showers	19 Bernice Whitegull	Audrey Beverly
Shirley Reed	Errol Mrotek	Conner
9 Linda Revels	Charles Smith Jr.	30 Frank Dikeman
Patricia Logan	22 Ollie Rose Heth	31 Anita White
Sarah Lyons	Lawrence La Mere	Eagle - Winneshiek
Maribeth Devich	23 Waldo Stacy	
11 Joycelyn Buchanan	Carol Lastrup	

The Hocak Worak is a periodical published twice monthly by the Ho-Chunk Nation. Editorials and articles appearing in the Hocak Worak are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion or attitude of the Hocak Worak staff or the Ho-Chunk Nation.

The Hocak Worak encourages the submission of letters to the Editor. All letters must include the signature, address and telephone number of the author. Letters are subject to editing for grammar, length, malicious and libelous content.

The Hocak Worak reserves the right to reject any advertising, material, or letters submitted for publication. The submission of articles, poetry, artwork and photos is encouraged. The Editor makes the sole decision of what is published in the Hocak Worak. The Hocak Worak will not assume any responsibility for unsolicited material.

Submissions deadlines for the Hocak Worak are by 4:30 PM. We cannot guarantee the publication of submissions meeting these deadlines if the space is not available. No part of this publication may be produced without express written consent from the Editor.

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Language revitalized by Nintendo and Apps

Sanford LittleEagle
Staff Writer

The first time I had got wind of or saw progress that the Language and Culture Division had been developing a Ho-Chunk Language platform for the Nintendo DS, and for the iPhone, was at the 2011 General Council.

An iPhone? Believe it or not, yes a Ho-Chunk language application for the iPhone; and for the Android phones as well. I immediately signed up for the drawing and waited patiently all day for them to announce it over the air Live at General Council. No luck. They drew Gale White's name instead. I thought to myself, "Oh well, it will be out for the rest of us some day."

As you're reading this article, the powers that be are discussing the North American release of Nintendo's Blockbuster Game



Curriculum Developer with the Hoocak Language & Culture Toree Jones.

Hoocak Waazijja Hacı. Okay well maybe Nintendo is not anticipating the release of the game, because it is not really a game. However it looks like a game cartridge (DS), but in way it is sort of game, there is a game involved. A quiz, and by doing the quiz which shows a word in Hoocak, which then shows multiple pictures for you to choose the answer, you are learning and having fun at the same time. Information is retained well in this teaching method.

Toree Jones has been in works with her team at the Language Division to make learning the language fun and easy. With Apps, (short for Applications) for both

smartphone platforms, the Android and the iPhone, the final stages of completion are expected to be in early 2012. A tribal member will be able to download versions from iTunes and maybe even linked off of the www.ho-chunknation.com site; with technological advances, the options will be limitless.

There are many rumors on how and when the cartridge will be available for release, but right now there is no date scheduled. But we do know the cartridge is pricy, compared to popular games like Kirby Mass Attack or Mario Kart where the games are priced \$25 - \$50; the Hoocak Language cartridge will be higher than that price.



Screen shot taken of the actual game.

Recent talks with Language speakers have made mention that they are happy this medium is available as a learning tool. So we will see.

Now we all know what game system to get the little ones for Christmas. Gale, looks like I will get my own.



Susan Weber and Mya Estebo pose for a screen shot in the development phase of the Ho-Chunk language application for the tablet, pc, smartphone version for the Language App.

Childrens trust fund task force update

Submitted by the Children's Trust Fund Task Force

The Children's Trust Fund (CTF) Task Force has been diligently working on developing a clearer definition on how the Nation would define **High School Diploma**. There has been an issue of what exactly defines a high school diploma when approving for the distribution of the CTF. There are several different programs throughout the United States which provide alternatives to a "regular" high school diploma, each state or county may define this differently. The Children's Trust Fund Task Force would like to provide a universal definition to be used. The goal is to set an acceptable standard. The big question becomes "What does the Nation want to see as an acceptable standard for high school graduation?"

The Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Education has provided the task force with types of programs that are currently submitted to receive credit for a high school education. They are as follows:

Traditional High School Diploma - A diploma granted by a public or private high school to a person who has successfully completed the program of study required by the public school board or private high school.

GED - A certificate

of general educational development is granted to a person who has achieved a passing score on the general educational development test developed by the American Council on Education and administered at testing sites approved by the state superintendent and the American Council on Education.

HSED - A high school equivalency diploma is granted by the state superintendent by passing the General Educational Development (GED) test and five more additional requirements.

Alternative School - Whether on-site or off-site, these schools are operated by the school district (or consortium of school districts) as independent schools. The alternative school has an assigned school code and all attendance testing and enrollment data is reported by that school. The school is subject to all requirements of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, including potential designation as a school in need of improvement.

Charter Schools - These are public, nonsectarian schools created through a businesslike contract or "charter" between the charter governance board and the sponsoring school board or other chartering authority.

The Wisconsin charter school law gives charter schools freedom from most state rules and regulations in exchange for greater accountability for results. The charter defines the missions and methods of the charter school. The chartering authority holds the school accountable to its charter.

GED#2 - The GED Option #2 program allows authorized school districts to use the GED test battery to measure proficiency in lieu of high school credit for students enrolled in an alternative education program. A student who passes the GED tests and completes the other requirements for graduation is entitled to the traditional high school diploma. Wisconsin received approval to offer this

opportunity to local school districts as a part of its waiver application to GED Testing Services.

Homeschooling - A parent or guardian has the right to select a home-based private educational program, commonly referred to as homeschooling, for his or her child or children, in order to comply with compulsory school attendance law. Home-based private educational programs provide educational instruction to a child by the child's parent or guardian or by a person designated by the parent or guardian.

Correspondence schools - This is a program for homeschoolers who wish to follow a curriculum and/or earn a diploma by registering with a distance school that

offers correspondence courses (paper assignments sent by mail) or online courses (delivered over the internet).

These are just some of the types of programs that are available for our youth to earn a high school diploma. Each of these programs also has different variations depending on the state, county, or city. All of these possible options create a very large burden on our Enrollment and Education departments as they try to verify the documents that are being submitted by our youth.

The chart below shows the number of youth and the various programs that they have used in order to obtain their high school education over the years.

TYPES OF HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION 1999-2011 **

	99	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11
HS Diploma	50	49	53	87	109	92	106	93	105	94	111	123	93
HSED/GED	22	25	17	3	1	0							
Alternative	2	2	4	2	1	4	4	1	7	5	4	7	5
Correspondence	0	2	4	5	2	6	7	6	7	11	18	14	8
Charter	0	0	0	3	0	0	1	7	1	4	3	2	3
Phoenix/GED02	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	7	4	2	1	4	2
Home School	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
No diploma -Age 25							15	25	30	35	31	34	20

**Data provided by
Enrollment
Department

Osseo-Fairchild drop Chieftains Mascot

Officially changing on November 28, 2011, the Osseo-Fairchild school district announced "THUNDER" as the new nickname.

Marlon WhiteEagle
Staff Writer

The changing of mascots was a long and arduous process that took nearly a decade with many agreeing that Indian mascots promoted discrimination, stereotyping, and harassment. The Wisconsin State Legislature passed Wisconsin Act 250 in 2009 which allowed school district residents to file a complaint to the State Superintendent, beginning on May 20, 2010. The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction issued an order for the Osseo-Fairchild School District to change their mascot on July 27, 2010.

The Department of Public Instruction findings reported incident of racism, stereotyping, and harassment. In 2003, two incidents occurred: the use of "dirty Indian", and "a student was asked why he didn't dress like a real Indian." In 2004, an away team had the slogan "scalp the chieftains" on their homecoming float. In 2006, the "war dance" was done during a time out at a volleyball game. In 2010, "athletes taunted an American Indian resident"

saying "Chieftains" on school property.

The Ho-Chunk Nation Legislature Resolution 7-07-04 addresses the mascot issue and states: "Each district of the Ho-Chunk Nation shall decide issues of offensive and demeaning school nicknames, logos, and mascots and those found offensive and demeaning shall be reported to the Legislature to take appropriate action to voice to the school district the Nation's opposition to the negative and demeaning portrayal of Native American Indian people." The Osseo-Fairchild School District did not present evidence to District 1 of the Ho-Chunk Nation, but presented Resolution 7-07-04. The superintendent did not accept Resolution 7-07-04 as approval of the Ho-Chunk Nation.

Since 1968, Osseo-Fairchild has been known as the Chieftains. Since 2004, the Chieftain logo was designed from a photo of Ho-Chunk Nation tribal member, Frank Thunder, with permission from the Thunder family, who been long time residents of Osseo and Fairchild. The late Jon Thunder and his sister, the



Osseo-Fairchild Thunder sweatshirt for sale at the school store.

late Darlene Thunder, both the children of Levi Thunder, have left their impact in Chieftain's sport history. Jon was a member of the State Champion and State Runner-up Osseo-Fairchild Chieftain football teams. Darlene has a standing Osseo-Fairchild Chieftain cross country meet record.

The Osseo-Fairchild School District held balloting from November 1 through November 15 to decide the new nickname, logo, and mascot. With many choices to choose from, the choices were Osprey, Dragons, Bengals, Phoenix, or a write-in; Thunder won as a write-in, garnering 659 votes of the 2,023 votes casted. Osseo-Fairchild School District residents, students (Grades 6-12), staff, parents, and alumni were eligible to vote. Elementary school students voted at their school. In the near future, the district will be hosting a logo design contest for residents. Clouds and a lightning bolt will be and have been included in the current design.

Levi Thunder, Ho-Chunk tribal member and Osseo-Fairchild School District resident, shared his thoughts on the mascot change. He said, "It's good. Most people in the area are farmers, they like the sound of thunder. People need things; we can't survive without water." Levi said the local TV sport news now uses the nickname in their reports. He said, "I heard it on TV, it's good to hear."

Nick Kedrowski, the husband of Nyree Kedrowski (nee Thunder), and Gordon Thunder also shared their thoughts about the mascot change. Gordon said,

"Thunder is a natural phenomenon. That's what the new mascot has been changed to." Many of the Osseo-Fairchild School District residents believe the new name is in honor of Frank Thunder. Nick said, "We were there when they made the announcement. Some of Nyree's friends gave her a celebratory hug after the announcement was made."

Bill Tourdot, the Osseo-Fairchild principal, said "after the Department of Public Instruction order, we had to remove everything with Chieftains on it from the school grounds. They did an inspection and looked everywhere. (They looked) in closets, drawers, storage." Tourdot said the school store now sells Thunder attire. He said, "When we first offered Thunder gear, we had a line of folks here (to buy). There was a long line. We were overwhelmed."

The American Psychological Association

did studies on the effects of racial mascots and found harmful effects. Empirical research showed the use of race based mascots, whether negative or positive, lowered self esteem in students of that race, lowered belief that community government could protect or come to the aid of the race, and lowered achievement related to future goals of students. Furthermore, the use of race based mascots showed any child will endorse racial stereotypes of other racial minority groups.

In the end, the Osseo-Fairchild School District offered no evidence of educating students and visiting team about the Chieftain mascot and was considered race based. For some district residents, they will always consider Osseo-Fairchild as the Chieftains. Many are pleased at the outcome and look forward to a new Thunder legacy.



A Welcome to Chieftain Town sign stands in a yard across the street from the Osseo-Fairchild High School. Signs can be seen throughout the Osseo and Fairchild.



Ward Athletic Field was once home of the Chieftains is now the home of the Thunder.

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Health Surveys

Sanford LittleEagle
Staff Writer

For the last several weeks, a few questions arose such as, "Did you hear you can get \$30 tonight? Where? How? From Who? The Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health is giving tribal members \$30 to fill out a survey." Well that is kind of how the word of mouth was for the last few weeks around Ho-Chunk country.

What took place was dozens of employees from the Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health had went out into the communities to offer tribal members a free Health Fair and to complete a survey in the form of a questionnaire, which in return tribal members were given a \$30 Gift Certificate to compensate each member for their time. Gary Ilminen,

RN at the House of Wellness made mention that about 200 members of the community attended the event held at the HOW.

For two weeks, well over a dozen employees from Alcohol Drug Program Services, Domestic Violence Program, Well Woman Health, Diabetic Basics, Community Health, Nutrition and Health Benefits Specialists, travelled to the different Ho-Chunk sites and set up informational booths.

Each tribal member upon registration was given a blank card and proceeded to take a tour of the booths. At each stop they were able to ask questions, pick up pamphlets, and get a stamp on their card. One Health Benefits Specialist said a tribal member learned that during per-capita distribution



The community hall in Nekoosa filled up early on November 30 for the Health Fair.



More than 100 members of the community joined the fun at the Health Fair event in Wittenberg on December 5. Here is part of the crowd enjoying the meal that was served at the event as Siga Funmaker (standing at center-right) prepares for a drawing for one of the many door prizes.

District III December area Meetings rescheduled:

Wisconsin Rapids Area Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, December 14 has been rescheduled for Tuesday, December 27.

Indian Heights Area Meeting scheduled for Thursday, December 15 has been rescheduled for Thursday, December 29.

Merry Christmas
from the
Office of the
President



Front (L-R): Ruth Puent, Georgianna "Siga" Funmaker, Carol Rollins. Middle (L-R): Kelsey (Virterbo Student Nurse), Shawn Nadeau, Denis Rockman, Joyce Rockman, Diane Cayer, Louise Voss, Rachel Montana, Joan Greendeer-Lee. Back (L-R): Nicholle Oman, Cindy Wyss, Randy Poelma, John Degen, Renee Bradford, Sally Zager, Perry Funmaker.

months many tribal members are removed from the State of Wisconsin's Badgercare and were given alternative reminders to enroll in Contract Health through IHS. Although this is one example of information provided, there was so much good information available at each booth.

So with a fully stamped card, once you made it around to all the booths you then filled out the Survey. The Survey was not too intrusive, but was lengthy. Once compiled, the survey's data will be used to allow the Health Department to have demographic information about the needs of the membership. That is what the survey was done for; to assess the needs of the Nation. The tribe's Ho-Chunk Health Care is well on its way to becoming a fully accredited Health Department by the Accreditation Association of Ambulatory Health Care.

So with Gift Certificate in hand it was time to waruc! The dept also provided a meal and drinks, and many stayed seated, visited, and waited for



Lacrosse area residents Naomi Rich, Mariah Greene, Rose Bird, and Adrienne Bird sharing a laugh and ready to fill out some surveys.

the next fun part of the night away from home. It was then time for door prizes. A Ho-Chunk woman proudly said, "Geez, that's nice. I like the way they are giving out those prizes. That's an old way, we use to have get-togethers and when we had prizes it was items you could use at your home." Health had rolls of woogaax, dish soap, coffee, and snacks for door prizes. They had really done a good job and put some thought into the events.

A lot of good information,

gift certificates, a meal, and prizes were well worth a couple hours of your time. Maybe when the next round of surveys come through, maybe scheduling date night around it next time would work out for you? Well, maybe not. The Ho-Chunk Nation Department of Health wishes to thank Perry Funmaker and Dennis Rockman for volunteering, and to the CHR's for cooking, and all of the Staff from the different Divisions.

Wittenberg Rocks

Submitted by Heather Cloud, Area III Rep.

On November 26, 2011, Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg set records again! The perfect location (just off Hwy 29), awesome guests, dedicated employees, and a close knit community made the night of the ATV drawings a night to remember; a topic of discussions for several days. Maximum capacity was exceeded and many patiently waited at the doors for others to leave so they could make their way to that special machine. Lines formed at the machines as everyone was eager to play.

Anna LongTail, Ho-Chunk tribal member's Facebook status exclaimed, "At Ho-Chunk North with Hoonch. Not one machine open!!! Monies roll in!!!! Woohoo!!!!!!!" Annette Littlewolf, Ho-Chunk elder, also informed that there were no machines to play and that people were walking around socializing, visiting with one another, hanging

along the barside, or getting something to eat rather than leaving; waiting for a machine to open. Jackie MacKinnis, Pac haci community member also said while she was sitting at a machine, her name was selected for an ATV drawing. She continued, "I went to put my name in for the drawing at guest services and the line went all the way back to the snack bar."

For those of you that are not familiar with the layout of the facility, the line for Guest

Services went diagonal across the entire casino; between and around the machines. Jackie said the line moved very fast and that none of the customers were upset since it was going so smoothly.

I would like to say kudos to the excellent customer service provided by all the staff at our Wittenberg facility. Everyone did an outstanding job and thank you for providing impeccable service for the Nation.



Ho-Chunk Gaming Wittenberg

Ho-Chunk Gaming Black River Falls supports Unmet Needs program

Submitted by Michelle Ramberg, HCG – BRF Senior Manager-Public Relations

For the third consecutive year, Ho-Chunk Gaming Black River Falls joins Burger King and WWIS in assisting area soldiers by showing their support for the regional Unmet Needs program.

Unmet Needs is a program that offers assistance to military families in need of

financial support. Gifts of up to \$2,500 are provided to families of soldiers that are living apart from their loved ones while serving our country. 100% of these monetary donations collected are used to cover medical expenses, home repairs, car repairs, groceries and other household costs that often times become a worry to these separated families.

Each November, several

area Burger King locations actively collect donations for this cause in an effort to replenish the funds available to our soldiers. Realizing that as many as 2,000 families depend on this program for emergency assistance each year, Ho-Chunk Gaming Black River Falls offered their financial support by presenting a check for \$1,000 to the Unmet Needs Program.



(L-R) Mike DeRosa, Michelle Ramberg & Sherry DeRosa (DeRosas own Burger King in BRF)

NFC North three fourths done

Submitted by Jim Lincoln

December football games to me are like getting desert with every meal, we muddled through three months of canned spinach, cabbage, broccoli, peas, carrots and canned spam to get to the month that has games of real significance. These last four games are the sweet potatoes with roast turkey; honey glazed baked ham, prime rib and lobster of football games for all fans that watch pro ball.

But for the 2-10 Vikings, the lonely occupant in the cellar of the NFC North, (as predicted), the same left over gruel will be served again this December. The McNugg, er McNabb experiment is over, what did we learn? Probably the same thing that Philly's Andy Reid and Washington's Mike Shanahan learned and that is Donovan had a fork in him when he came to Minnesota. We all know leftovers are never the same when reheated and injuries are not the only thing to blame this teams struggles on but if things continue as is for the Vikings, they not only will have

a new menu and chef for next season, but they may have a whole new kitchen as well. Skol Vikings...

Da 7-5 Bear's season is already at a must win point for any hope of playing post season football this coming January, they are in a heated contest with several other NFC teams one of them being the conference rival "Pride of Detroit" they are currently tied with for one of the two wild card spots slated for non division champs. But as things get tough, and when game wins mean the most what happens? Chicago quarterback, Jay Cutler takes his thumb out of his mouth and ow-ee, he gets a na-na on the thumb of his throwing hand and is now seen standing on the sideline, AGAIN. Does this sound familiar to anyone besides me? Ex-Packer Brett Favre broke his throwing hand thumb and kept playing, twice! This year, Mathew Stafford of Detroit broke a bone in his hand and was seen playing with gloves covering the splint on his throwing hand. Because we see a pouting face on "baby Jay" cowering behind the

coaches on the sidelines and Chicago's work horse Matt Forte done for the year, it sure looks like, as predicted, 3rd in the division is where the season will end for Da-Bears.

The Lions- Are having a plethora of penalties tossed at them this year, major drive killing flags or drive sustaining flags that work to the advantage of the opposition. The Lions received 2 unnecessary roughness and 2 unsportsmanlike conduct penalties in their last two games. They have 5 of each for the season, the first unnecessary rough-

ness call in a week 1 victory over the Buc's that resulted in the first Lion benching, and another benching in week 2. Guess what? Neither of these were caused by bad boys, Ndamukong Suh, or the "Red eyed" Kyle Vanden Bosch or Coach Jim Schwartz all who have had pre- and post-whistle penalties called against them. Schwartz was hired to breathe some life and light a fire under a team that went 0-16 just two seasons ago, that fire flared into an uncontrolled inferno. My prediction was they were going to make

run in the playoffs. For that to happen the "Pride of Detroit" needs a Lion tamer, hi-yah! If Schwartz doesn't "get-er done" the real Lion tamers come to town on New Year's day, wearing the Green and Gold of NFC North Champions...

Packers- Twelve and 0 baby! 18 wins in a row! All ready the 2011 NFC North Division Champions! Woo-hoo, it's all gravy from here on out!

Go Pack Go!

Setting of new Winnebago Heights house

Submitted by Mark Butterfield and Neil Whitegull

Ho-Chunk Housing and Community Development Agency (HHCDA) will be setting in place a new two-story, single-family house in Winnebago Heights subdivision at 8:30 am, on Wednesday, November 30, 2011. The new modular unit was constructed by Centerville Homes, of Centerville, Wisconsin, a subsidiary of Dynamic Homes of Detroit Lakes, Minnesota, a Native American company owned by Ho-Chunk Inc. The new four-bedroom unit, fully ADA accessible on the first

floor, is being funded by a US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG), and will help to meet the affordable housing needs of larger families on HHCDA's waiting list. The water and sewer systems for the house were already in place, funded by a previous HUD grant. The unit will have an energy-efficient geothermal heating-and-cooling system and a radon-mitigation system, and will be Energy Star rated, with energy-efficient appliances, windows (triple paned), and roof (R-50 rated).

ATTENTION

2011 Tax Document Information that may affect you.


Greetings to all,

Please review the check list below and make sure that you have completed all items that are relevant to your situation.

- ☐ You will need to complete a new Form W-4 and/or WT-4 if your withholding allowances have changed. These forms are available online at: ho-chunknation.com under Treasury.
- ☐ If you claimed exempt status on your federal Form W-4 or your state form WT-4 you are required to complete a new form for 2012 by Feb. 15, 2012.
- ☐ Check the address that prints on your payroll check or direct deposit advice. Be sure to update your address with the Personnel Department.
- ☐ 1099's will be printed using the address verification supplied to the Enrollment Department.

There is a \$5.00 charge for EACH COPY of the W-2 or 1099-M to be reprinted.

It is very important to make sure your current address is printed on your payroll check, per-cap check or direct deposit advice.



ATTENTION

**FINANCE COMMITTEE
OF THE HO-CHUNK NATION LEGISLATURE
REGULAR MEETING - EXECUTIVE
OFFICES**

BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI

OCTOBER 26, 2011

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by the Presiding Officer, Rep. Robert TwoBears at 10:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL:

Rep. Robert TwoBears, Presiding Officer (P)
Rep. Patrick RedEagle, Presiding Officer (P)
V.P. Greg Blackdeer (P)

Rep. Doug Greengrass (P)

Rep. Susan Weber (P)

Rep. Andrea Estebro (P)

Rep. Jim Greendeer (EX)

Rep. John Holst (NP)

Rep. Hope Smith (NP)

District 3 - Vacant

Rep. Shelby Visintin (P)

Rep. Greg Littlejohn (EX)

Rep. Forrest White Rabbit (P)

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM: Quorum is established.

OPENING PRAYER: Representative Forrest White Rabbit offered a word of prayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: MOTION by Rep. Andrea Estebro to add three items to the agenda: District 2 paved driveway for John Smith, District 2 request from Pat Boyles, Granddad's bluff request under DISTRICT CONCERNS. Second by Rep. Forrest White Rabbit. **7-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.**

MEETING MINUTES: MOTION by Rep. Doug Greengrass to dispense with the reading of the September 28, 2011 Regular Finance Committee meeting minutes as they were ratified at the October 4, 2011 Legislative meeting. Second by V.P. Greg Blackdeer. **7-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.**

RECESS: The committee took a brief recess from 10:05 a.m. to 10:20 a.m. as there were no chairs for the audience and maintenance were bringing them into the meeting room.

ROLL CALL:

Rep. Robert TwoBears, Presiding Officer (P)

Rep. Patrick RedEagle, Presiding Officer (P)

V.P. Greg Blackdeer (P)

Rep. Doug Greengrass (P)

Rep. Susan Weber (P)

Rep. Andrea Estebro (P)

Rep. Jim Greendeer (EX)

Rep. John Holst (P)

Rep. Hope Smith (P)

District 3 - Vacant

Rep. Shelby Visintin (P)

Rep. Greg Littlejohn (EX)

Rep. Forrest White Rabbit (P)

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM: Quorum is established.

REPORTS:

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS REPORTS:
Class II / III Facility Report - Scott Marecek

The Scorecard and the Consolidated Business Summary for the month of September were briefly reviewed with the committee. All of the facilities are above their projections for the current year and prior year.

Class II / III Marketing Report - Scott Marecek

The Marketing Report for the month of September was reviewed with the Committee. Marquee signs are expected to be completed by December 19, 2011.

Retail Division - Robert Reider

The retail division report for the month of September was reviewed with the committee. The report includes: Ho-Chunk Giftshop, Whitetail Crossing C-Stores, and Crockett's Resort. Rep. Doug Greengrass is excused at 10:45 a.m.

Distribution Center - Troy Swallow

The September Ho-Chunk Distribution monthly reports for Lake Delton and Tomah locations were reviewed with the committee. There was an error on the first page on the years listed for the Bingo operation.

TREASURY REPORT:

September 2011 Financial Update - Clint Breed

The September 2011 financials were reviewed with the committee.

Tax Code Update: The various amounts disbursed through the tax code were reviewed with the committee.

Unexpended Report: The FY 10-11 Unexpended Report was reviewed with the committee and there is an estimated \$1.5 million to be appropriated by the Legislature per the Appropriation and Budget Process Act. A history of the report was requested as to what amount was determined each year. Mr. Breed will gather the information. The unexpended report will be addressed at the end of the meeting.

MOTION by Rep. Forrest White Rabbit to **TABLE** the FY 10-11 Unexpended Report to the end of the meeting. Second by Rep. John Holst. **8-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.**

RFP Cash Management & RFP Audit Updates:

Treasury staff, Clint Breed, provided an update on the RFP for Cash Management services. A panel of individuals from Health, Business, Office of the President, and Treasury

has been established to review the RFP, determine a timeline, select recipients, and develop a scoring method for the responses. The first meeting is scheduled for October 27th.

A panel of individuals has been set up for the RFP for the audit services. The first meeting is scheduled for October 31st. The evaluation team will consist of Business, Compliance, Office of the President, and Treasury. The choices will be narrowed down to two or three and brought before the Legislature who will select the Independent Certified Public Accounting firm.

It was reported that financial information requested from Lynwood has not been received by the Treasury Department and it was due to them November 1st. This was a motion that was made at the September Legislative meeting.

TAU MEETING, OCTOBER 19, 2011:

No one from TAU was present at the meeting, the meeting minutes were reviewed and those items that need to be addressed were.

Hoarding Conference: The conference is scheduled for the end of November at the Ho-Chunk Casino conference center. Budget request was for \$3,525 to cover cost for Speaker \$725, Travel \$200, Hotel \$100, Lunch \$1,000, Drum \$500, Honor Guard \$500, and Elder Prizes \$500.

MOTION by V.P. Greg Blackdeer to **APPROVE** the Hoarding Conference budget request in the amount of \$3,525 from the Elder Assistance Fund. Second by Rep. Andrea Estebro. **8-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Andrea Estebro to **APPROVE** the District 2 elder request from Margaret Klonecki for a Bruno Turny Car Seat in the amount of \$3,995 to Access Mobility from the Elder Assistance Fund. Second by Rep. Susan Weber. **8-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. John Holst to **APPROVE** the District 2 elder request from Lenore Sweet for a walk-in shower in the amount of \$3,835.97 from Lange Plumbing from the Elder Assistance Fund. Second by Rep. Andrea Estebro. **8-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.**

Representation for Madison, Milwaukee, and Waukesha:

The TAU minutes stated that Milly Whiteagle-Lee was present at their meeting requesting representation from Milwaukee and Madison areas on the Elder Board and until then requested someone to attend their District meetings to keep them updated on the current happenings of the Nation. It was stated by Parliament Decorah that the Legislature was working on a Tribal-wide Committee Council Act to revise all boards due to the redistricting.

MOTION by Rep. Andrea Estebro to request the letter that was given to the Elder Advisory Board from Mrs. Muriel Whiteagle-Lee and Wilma Thompson be given to the Legislature so the letter can be forwarded to the Office of the President to get the numbers. Second by Rep. John Holst. **8-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: FY 11-12 Vehicle Purchase and Law Enforcement Center Project funds will be addressed after lunch as Sheila Corbine will be available to present those agenda items.

General Council Agency - Pine Giroux Mart: Request for funds for the budget modification was correcting a line item with the wrong account number.

MOTION by Rep. Forrest White Rabbit to **APPROVE** the General Council budget modification 1403-09.28.2011-M01 in the amount of \$30,000. Second by Rep. Andrea Estebro. **8-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.**

Youth Services: There wasn't anyone present to address the Youth Services budget modification. The committee moved to the next agenda item.

HCG Wisconsin Dells: The decrease was from Wide Area Progressives and the increase was for humidifiers.

MOTION by V.P. Greg Blackdeer to **APPROVE** the HCG Wisconsin Dells budget decrease 10.0001-10.14.2011-D01 in the amount of \$100,000 and to **APPROVE** the HCG Wisconsin Dells budget increase 10.0001-10.14.2011-I01 in the amount of \$100,000. Second by Rep. John Holst. **8-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.**

Department of Business: A budget request for Contract Services was requested to assist with the due diligence requests that the Department of Business receives. An RFP has been developed and they will have an estimated amount when they receive the bids back. They were also asked to check with Merrill Lynch if they can do the due diligence.

MOTION by Rep. John Holst to **DENY** the Department of Business budget increase 2120-10.20.2011-I02 in the amount of \$100,000 and to bring back to the next Finance Committee meeting if still needed. Second by Rep. Andrea Estebro. **8-0-0-2 (Rep. Hope Smith, V.P. Greg Blackdeer) MOTION CARRIED.** (Rep. Susan Weber out of the room)

Youth Services: The youth services budget modification was moving funds from the Youth Coordinator position to Building Repair / Maintenance, Telephone, Vehicle Fuel, Office Supplies, Computer Supplies, and Minor Equipment.

MOTION by Rep. Andrea Estebro to **APPROVE** the Youth Services budget modification 8013-10.12.2011-M02 in the amount of \$136,900. Second by Rep. Shelby Visintin. **7-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.** (Rep. Susan Weber out of the room)

Legislature: The budget modification was to purchase a smart board for the conference room.

MOTION by V.P. Greg Blackdeer to **APPROVE** the Legislative budget modification 1100-10.24.2011-M02 in the amount of \$13,000. Second by Rep. John Holst. **7-0-1 (Rep. Susan Weber) MOTION CARRIED.**

Agenda Amendment: MOTION by Rep. Andrea Estebro to add to the agenda, Honolulu Marathon request, under NEW BUSINESS. Second by Rep. John Holst. **7-1 (V.P. Greg Blackdeer) - 0 MOTION CARRIED.**

Agenda Amendment: MOTION by Rep. Susan Weber to add to the agenda, District 1 paved driveway request for Lewis Buchanan, under **DISTRICT CONCERNS**. Second by Rep. Andrea Estebro. **8-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.**

General Fund: The funding that was set up in the New / Matching Grant line item of \$300,000 was moved into Capital Project accounts for the Childcare Center Project \$150,000 and the Dell Dam Community Center Project \$150,000. An additional decrease of \$20,000 was changed to \$100,000 per the resolution 10/18/11K setting up a home repair contingency line item in the Department of Housing's budget. The resolution did not identify a line item and there was a discrepancy on the amount.

MOTION by V.P. Greg Blackdeer to **APPROVE** the General Fund budget decrease 1900-10.24.2011-D01 in the amount of \$310,000. Second by Rep. John Holst. **7-0-1 (Rep. Forrest White Rabbit) MOTION CARRIED.**

Capital Projects: MOTION by V.P. Greg Blackdeer to **APPROVE** the Capital Project request for funds 0029-10.24.2011-I01 in the amount of \$300,000. Second by Rep. John Holst. **7-0-1 (Rep. Forrest White Rabbit) MOTION CARRIED.**

HHDA - Reconciliation of HOME Project & Small Business/ Financial Literacy:

HHDA submitted a letter to the Presiding Officers of the Finance Committee reconciling the funds and returned unused funds from FY 10-11 for the HOME project \$13,165.54 and Small Business / Financial Literacy \$2,460.71.

Merrill Lynch Loan Principal Payment - V.P. Greg Blackdeer

MOTION by Rep. Susan Weber to pay down on the Merrill Lynch Loan with the amount of \$7,124,054.30 to be paid on a monthly basis for the remainder of the fiscal year. Second by Rep. Andrea Estebro. **7-1 (Rep. Forrest White Rabbit) - 0 MOTION CARRIED.**

Honolulu Marathon Request - Brenda Neff

District 2 Tribal member, Brenda Neff, was present with a request for funds for three individuals (Brenda Neff, Judy Whitehorse, and Heather Hillmer) in the amount of \$5,112, the amount included per diem, hotel room, airfare, race registration, and cultural events. The full amount was requested, no fundraisers were held to offset the cost.

MOTION by Rep. Susan Weber to **APPROVE** a donation of \$500 to assist the three individuals for their participation in the Honolulu Marathon from the Charitable Contribution line item. Second by Rep. Hope Smith. **3-3 (Rep. Patrick RedEagle, Rep. John Holst, V.P. Greg Blackdeer) - 2 (Rep. Andrea Estebro, Rep. Shelby Visintin) TIE VOTE. THE PRESIDING OFFICER VOTED NO ON THE MOTION. MOTION DEFEATED.**

RECESS: MOTION by Rep. Susan Weber to recess for lunch until 1:15 p.m. Second by Rep. Andrea Estebro. **7-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.** (V.P. Greg Blackdeer out of the room)

The meeting recessed at 12:15 p.m. The meeting was called back to order at 1:20 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Rep. Robert TwoBears, Presiding Officer (P)

Rep. Patrick RedEagle, Presiding Officer (P)

V.P. Greg Blackdeer (P)

Rep. Doug Greengrass (1:22 p.m.)

Rep. Susan Weber (P)

Rep. Andrea Estebro (P)

Rep. Jim Greendeer (EX)

Rep. John Holst (1:22 p.m.)

Rep. Hope Smith (1:35 p.m.)

District 3 - Vacant

Rep. Shelby Visintin (P)

Rep. Greg Littlejohn (EX)

Rep. Forrest White Rabbit (P)

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM: Quorum is established.

Rep. Doug Greengrass and Rep. John Holst arrive at 1:22 p.m.; Rep. Hope Smith arrives at 1:35 p.m.

Mitchell Redcloud Jr. Detachment Request

The request was for matching funds be allowed to their Veteran group on future fundraising events they have. A list was provided to the committee over the various events and the account showed \$9,339.31 was raised by the group.

MOTION by Rep. John Holst to **APPROVE** a matching fund request for the Mitchell Redcloud Jr. Detachment in the amount of \$9,300 from the Charitable Contributions line item.

Second by Rep. Forrest White Rabbit. **7-0-2 (V.P. Greg Blackdeer, Rep. Hope Smith) MOTION CARRIED.**

Investment Portfolio Reports:

Special Revenue Account (September) - Todd Anderson

The income analysis report and the September report on the road construction and special revenue account were reviewed with the committee. Information on the mortgage backed securities will be provided.

Merrill Lynch - Dan Staples

The Long Term Portfolio report was reviewed with the committee. The UMA will be addressed and reviewed at the next Finance Committee meeting.

The history of the grant account will be researched as to why it was collateralized.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

FY 11-12 Vehicle Purchase - Law Enforcement: Sheila Corbine informed the committee that the funds were no longer needed to purchase the vehicles as they recently purchased a vehicle from an auction.

Law Enforcement Center Project Request:

The matching funds from the Nation for the Law Enforcement Center is \$2,072,750 and this was tabled at the last Finance meeting. A lot of questions were asked regarding the funding for the project, how will this benefit the Nation? What services will be covered? What about the law enforcement agreements? MOU's or MOA's with the counties. The state will still have criminal jurisdiction. Additional history will be provided at the next meeting.

What will this cost the Nation in the future?

MOTION by Rep. Susan Weber to **TABLE** the Law Enforcement Center Project funds request. Second by Rep. Andrea Estebro. **6-0-1 (V.P. Greg Blackdeer) MOTION CARRIED.** (Rep. Patrick RedEagle, Rep. Shelby Visintin out of the room)

Rep. Hope Smith is excused at 2:47 p.m.

DISTRICT REQUESTS:

District 1 Elder: Selina Joshua, elite elder, submitted two bids to have her driveway paved. The bids submitted were \$6,628 and \$120.

MOTION by Rep. Susan Weber to **APPROVE** the paved driveway request for District 1 elite elder, Selina Joshua, with the bid from Greenleaf Lime and Excavating in the amount of \$6,628 from the Elder Assistance Fund. Second by Rep. Doug Greengrass. **8-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Susan Weber to have District 1 elite elder request from Selina Joshua for the paved driveway on an emergency basis. Second by Rep. Doug Greengrass. **7-0-1 (V.P. Greg Blackdeer) MOTION CARRIED.**

Youth Christmas Gift Options: Options were provided to the committee on a Christmas gift to the youth and the elders. The TAU meeting minutes reflected a \$150 gift to the elders and some of the area meetings requested an additional \$50 for elders in the Madison, Milwaukee, and the District 5 locations as they do not have a TAU site available to them.

MOTION by Rep. Doug Greengrass to **REFER** the Christmas gift options for all tribal members categorized by youth, 19-59, and elders and to have employee bonus options provided for the next Legislative meeting for consideration. Second by Rep. Andrea Estebro. **8-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.**

District 2 Elder: John Smith, elite elder, submitted two bids to have his driveway paved. The bids submitted were \$5,700 and \$11,797.

MOTION by Rep. Andrea Estebro to **APPROVE** the paved driveway request for District 2 elite elder, John Smith, with the bid from Paul Swartz in the amount of \$5,700 from the Elder Assistance Fund. Second by Rep. John Holst. **6-0-2 (Rep. Doug Greengrass, V.P. Greg Blackdeer) MOTION CARRIED.**

District 2 Elder Request - Pat Boyles

Tribal elder was present and requested financial assistance with her mortgage payment. She has been on the list for an HOP home since 1995. She purchased her home on her own and has been waiting for approval so she could have her mortgage paid. She is requesting assistance with August, September, and October payments in the amount of \$2,580.09 and another payment on her second mortgage payment of \$1,234.72 for a total request of \$3,814.81. She has gone to CDFI for assistance and to the

Department of Housing and they were unable to assist her.

MOTION by Rep. Doug Greengrass to **APPROVE** a one-time grant to District 2 elder, Pat Boyles, assisting her with the mortgage payments in the amount of \$3,814.81 from the Elder Assistance Fund so she doesn't lose her home.

Second by Rep. Andrea Estebro. **4-4 (V.P. Greg Blackdeer, Rep. Susan Weber, Rep. Shelby Visintin, Rep. Forrest White Rabbit) - 0 TIE VOTE. THE PRESIDING OFFICERS VOTES NO. MOTION DEFEATED.**

City of La Crosse Request:

No action was taken by the Committee on the City of La Crosse request. The request was for benches located on Granddad's Bluff in the amount of \$5,000.

District 2 Elder Elder Request:

MOTION by Rep. Andrea Estebro to have the District 2 Elder Elder request from John Smith be on an emergency basis. Second by Rep. Susan Weber. **6-0-1 (V.P. Greg Blackdeer) MOTION CARRIED.** (Rep. Doug Greengrass out of the room)

District 1 Elder Elder Request: Lewis Buchanan, elite elder, submitted three bids for concrete driveway, the bids were \$7,195, \$7,500, and \$8,000.

MOTION by Rep. Susan Weber to **APPROVE** the concrete driveway request for District 1 elite elder, Lewis Buchanan, with the bid from Witmer Builders in the amount of \$7,195 from the Elder Assistance Fund on an emergency basis. Second by Rep. Andrea Estebro. **6-0-1 (V.P. Greg Blackdeer) MOTION CARRIED.** (Rep. Doug Greengrass out of the room)

Unexpended Funds Report: MOTION by V.P. Greg Blackdeer to set up an Unexpended Fund line item in the General Fund placing the \$1,598,795 into the fund. Second by Rep. Susan Weber. **6-2 (Rep. Doug Greengrass, Rep. Forrest White Rabbit) - 0 MOTION CARRIED.**

Next Finance meeting: There was brief discussion on the next scheduled meeting and the Finance meeting will be November 29th and not the 30th.

ADJOURNMENT: MOTION by Rep. Doug Greengrass to adjourn the meeting. Second by Rep. John Holst. **8-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.**

The meeting adjourned at 4:12 p.m.

Kelley Thundersclow

Recording Secretary

**FINANCE COMMITTEE
OF THE HO-CHUNK NATION
LEGISLATURE
REGULAR MEETING - EXECUTIVE
OFFICES**

**BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI
NOVEMBER 29, 2011**

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by the Presiding Officer, Rep. Robert TwoBears at 10:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL: Rep. Robert TwoBears, Presiding Officer (P)

Rep. Patrick RedEagle, Presiding Officer (P)

V.P. Greg Blackdeer (EX)

Rep. Doug Greengrass (P)

Rep. Susan Weber (P)

Rep. Andrea Estebro (EX)

Rep. Jim Greendeer (P)

Rep. John Holst (EX)

Rep. Heather Cloud (P)

Rep. Hope Smith (NP)

Rep. Shelby Visintin (P)

Rep. Greg Littlejohn (P)

Rep. Forrest White Rabbit (P)

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM: Quorum is established.

OPENING PRAYER: Representative Greg Littlejohn offered a word of prayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: MOTION by Rep. Patrick RedEagle to **APPROVE** the agenda with the addition of Native Learning Center conference under CONFERENCE APPROVALS and Rebuilding Native Nations request under NEW BUSINESS. Second by Rep. Greg Littlejohn. **8-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.**

MEETING MINUTES: MOTION by Rep. Doug Greengrass to dispense with the reading of the October 26, 2011 Regular Finance Committee meeting as they were ratified at the November 8, 2011 Legislative meeting. Second by Rep. Greg Littlejohn. **8-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.**

REPORTS:

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS REPORTS:
Class II / III Facility Report - Scott Marecek

The consolidated business summary report for the month of October and the financial scorecard were reviewed with the Committee. The hotel will have the on-line reservation system on the website estimated to be in place by January. There were concerns with the table games at the BRF and Nekosaa facilities.

and support the following causes: Cancer Society, American Diabetes Association, and the American Red Cross. The marketing departments are now under the Executive Managers and they do continue to meet with the other facilities.

Non - Gaming / Other Entities ~ Becky Albert

A revised report for the Retail Division was reviewed with the Committee. They will review the fuel for gallons sold and tobacco items and will have a report at the next meeting. They are working on standard operating procedures and accounting controls at the facility levels.

Ho-Chunk Distribution Center ~ Troy Swallow

The Distribution reports for the Tomah and Lake Delton sites for the month of October were reviewed with the Committee.

Rep. Doug Greengrass is excused at 10:50 a.m.

TREASURY REPORT:

October 2011 Financial Update ~ Sandy Gleason

The Tribal Treasurer reviewed the October 2011 financials with the Committee.

Tax Code Update: The tax code was briefly reviewed with the Committee.

NEW BUSINESS:

Budget Modification - Property Management ~ Bob Pulley, Muriel Stewart

The budget modification was transferring funds to pay for furnaces for the rental units.

MOTION by Rep. Greg Littlejohn to **APPROVE** the Property Management budget modification 503.1-11.01.2011-M01 in the amount of \$22,500.

Second by Rep. Heather Cloud. **7-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.**

INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO REPORTS:

Special Revenue Account (October) Report ~ Todd Anderson

The October Special Revenue Account report, income analysis report, and the information on the mortgage backed securities were reviewed with the Committee. Per the IPS, Mr. Anderson, was advised to invest in mortgage backed securities as that has been a concern in prior meetings.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Law Enforcement Center Project: The Law Enforcement Center Project item was not addressed as members of the Law Commission were not present. The Committee moved to the next agenda item.

District 2 HHCA Concern (Melody Fintak): The tribal member had renter's insurance and there was loss of items estimated to be over \$6,450.47 due to water damage.

MOTION by Rep. Susan Weber to **APPROVE** the District 2 HHCA concern in the amount of \$1,000 payable to Melody Fintak for their loss of items due to water damage from the charitable contribution line item. Second by Rep. Jim Greendeer. **5 - 2 (Rep. Heather Cloud, Rep. Forrest White Rabbit) - 0 MOTION CARRIED.**

NEW BUSINESS:

State Compact Deduct for Utility District Study ~ William Lowe

A request to allow a portion of the compact deduction to be allocated for an estimated \$80,000 to pay for the Nation's portion of legal fees to set up a Utility District with the Town of Delton for developing the highway 12 corridor splitting the cost with the town of Delton.

MOTION by Rep. Susan Weber to **REFER** the State Compact Deduct for Utility District Study to the next Legislative meeting for adoption by resolution. Second by Rep. Greg Littlejohn. **7-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.**

Federal Employee Health Benefits Insurance (FEHB):

Rep. TwoBears inquired about utilization of the provision authorizing tribes and tribal organizations operating programs under the Self Determination and Education Assistance act to purchase coverage under the FEHB program for employees. Ericka Cloud, Executive Director of Personnel, was present and informed the Committee that a contract is in Department of Justice to renew the current provider, Auxiant, for three more years. A more formalized in depth research on the information can be brought back to the next Finance Committee meeting.

MOTION by Rep. Susan Weber to have the Department of Personnel provide a cost benefit analysis on the Federal Employee Health Benefits Program versus the current health insurance for the next Finance Committee meeting in December. Second by Rep. Shelby Visintin. **7-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.**

RECESS: MOTION

by Rep. Susan Weber to recess for an hour lunch. Second by Rep. Heather Cloud. **7-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.**

The meeting recessed at 12:02 p.m. The meeting was called back to order at 1:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Rep. Robert TwoBears, Presiding Officer (P)

Rep. Patrick RedEagle, Presiding Officer (P)

V.P. Greg Blackdeer (EX)

Rep. Doug Greengrass (EX) (1:46 p.m.)

Rep. Susan Weber (P)

Rep. Andrea Estebo (EX)

Rep. Jim Greendeer (P)

Rep. John Holst (EX)

Rep. Heather Cloud (1:03 p.m.)

Rep. Hope Smith (EX)

Rep. Shelby Visintin (P)

Rep. Greg Littlejohn (P)

Rep. Forrest White Rabbit (P)

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM: Quorum is established.

Rep. Heather Cloud arrives at 1:03 p.m.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Law Enforcement Center Project ~ Dan Libke

The Chief of Police stated they are in need of a secure building and are currently in one room at the Tribal Court Building. He plans on hiring one more officer this fiscal year and two part-time officers in the next year for more coverage and to allow time off for the full time officers. The building will also house the Child Support Agency. They have two vehicles they are being worked on to get them updated and there is no criminal code in place. Projected costs of the building were requested.

MOTION by Rep. Greg Littlejohn to **REFER** to Legislative Counsel and Legislative Attorney to research the potential of using gaming compact fees and to see if that is an option and proceed from there, this is to be addressed at the December Finance Committee meeting. Second by Rep. Heather Cloud. **7-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.**

INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO REPORTS:

Merrill Lynch ~ Dan Staples

The Investment Portfolio for the Long Term and Grant Accounts were reviewed with the Committee and the UMA document will be reviewed at the next Finance Committee meeting. The agreement needs signature in order to move forward with the changes that were made and the new agreement will lower the cost for fees.

MOTION by Rep. Heather Cloud to **TABLE** the review of the Unified Managed account agreement until the next Regular Finance Committee meeting. Second by Rep. Susan Weber. **8-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.**

401(k) Quarterly Report ~ Marc McDowell

The 401(k) quarterly report (Third Quarter) was reviewed with the Committee. A fiduciary review summary will be provided next month.

District Request:

District 3 (Gerald Cleveland Sr.) Request: The request was to cover the additional costs for his son's burial costs due to being in another state.

MOTION by Rep. Heather Cloud to **APPROVE** the District 3 request and to authorize the payment of \$3,845 from the Memorial Burial Expense line item to cover the additional cost payable to the vendor. Second by Rep. Forrest White Rabbit. **7 - 0 - 1 (Rep. Susan Weber) MOTION CARRIED.**

People of the Big Voice Request: The request was from Tom Jones requesting payment of the framework for 42 photographs ranging in print size of 11" x 16" up to 40" x 50" and the prints would be given to the Nation to keep. The cost is \$6,997.43.

MOTION by Rep. Susan Weber to **APPROVE** the People of the Big Voice request in the amount of \$6,997.43 from the Charitable Contribution line item. **MOTION DIES DUE TO LACK OF A SECOND.**

New Year's Eve Celebration Pow-wow Request ~ Robert Blackdeer

The New Year's Eve pow-wow will be held in Tomah, requested budget is \$18,390. Next year they will fundraise due to short notice they were unable to. Fletcher Collins, Lucy Snake, and Stuart Greendeer will be assisting with the pow-wow.

MOTION by Rep. Heather Cloud to **APPROVE** the New Year's Eve Pow-wow request in the amount of \$18,390 from the Pow-wow line item with the stipulation that the funds will be fully reconciled. Second by Rep. Jim Greendeer. **5 - 0 - 2 (Rep. Doug Greengrass, Rep. Shelby Visintin) MOTION CARRIED.** (Rep. Greg Littlejohn out of the room)

Setting of the Spending Limits:

The Committee moved to the next agenda items as they were unsure as to how long the setting of the spending

limits would take.

Rebasing Native Nations: The request was by Rep. TwoBears requesting the purchase of a distance learning course series from the Legislative budget.

MOTION by Rep. Susan Weber to **APPROVE** the purchase of the introductory course and the economic development modules from the office supplies line item in the amount of \$350. Second by Rep. Shelby Visintin. **8-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.**

CONFERENCE APPROVALS:

Native Learning Center 2012 Winter Symposium:

MOTION by Rep. Patrick RedEagle to **APPROVE** any legislator to attend the Native Learning Center 2012 Winter Symposium scheduled January 24-26, 2012 in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Second by Rep. Shelby Visintin. **8-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.**

DISTRICT REQUESTS:

United Church of Christ ~ Cecelia Kraus

The request was from the 7/13/11 District 1 meeting approving a \$6,000 contribution to the United Church of Christ located at the Indian Mission for their basement repairs, the estimated cost for the basement repair is \$92,000. It was mentioned that they have fundraised over \$30,000.

MOTION by Rep. Susan Weber to **APPROVE** the United Church of Christ request in the amount of \$6,000 from the Charitable Contribution line item as they have fundraised over \$30,000 themselves. Second by Rep. Forrest White Rabbit. **8-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.**

District 2 request - RADD Supporters (John Whitehorse - Brenda Neff)

The two tribal members requested \$500 each to be paid to the travel agency to assist with costs to travel to Hawaii to support the RADD marathon runners.

MOTION by Rep. Jim Greendeer to **APPROVE** the District 2 request from Judy Whitehorse and Brenda Neff to receive \$500 each to support the RADD marathon runners payable to the travel agency from the Charitable Contribution line item. **MOTION DIES DUE TO LACK OF A SECOND.**

RECESS: The meeting took a brief recess from 3:00 p.m. to 3:12 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Rep. Robert TwoBears, Presiding Officer (P)

Rep. Patrick RedEagle, Presiding Officer (P)

V.P. Greg Blackdeer (EX)

Rep. Doug Greengrass (P)

Rep. Susan Weber (P)

Rep. Andrea Estebo (EX)

Rep. Jim Greendeer (P)

Rep. John Holst (EX)

Rep. Heather Cloud (P)

Rep. Hope Smith (EX)

Rep. Shelby Visintin (P)

Rep. Greg Littlejohn (P)

Rep. Forrest White Rabbit (P)

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM: Quorum is established.

NEW BUSINESS:

Setting of the Spending Limits:

Per the Appropriation and Budget Process Act the Finance Committee shall not later than the last business day in November, provide notification of budget projections for the succeeding fiscal year. Such projections shall include spending limits on each and every branch of the Nation government in order to assist the development of timely and responsible budgetary outlays. The Executive Branch submitted net income projections for the next two fiscal years and the projections decreased from the current year. A spreadsheet showed prior year actual for each branch, capital expenditures for the enterprises, capital projects, and spending limits. There was lengthy discussion on the spending limits.

MOTION by Rep. Greg Littlejohn to **APPROVE** the spending limits for FY 12-13 as follows: General Council \$800,000; Judiciary Branch \$1,020,000; Executive Branch \$47,000,000; and Legislative Branch \$129,400,000. Second by Rep. Doug Greengrass.

MOTION IS WITHDRAWN.

SECOND CONCURS.

Rep. Susan Weber figured a 9% decrease across the board in setting the spending limits for each branch based on Executive Branch projections. The General Fund revenue was not in the figure so the amounts were recalculated to 3.6% decrease.

MOTION by Rep. Heather Cloud to decrease the spending limits for each branch by 4% for FY 12-13, the spending limits are as follows: General Council \$768,000; Judiciary Branch \$979,200; Executive Branch \$45,120,000; and Legislative Branch \$124,224,000. Second by Rep. Shelby Visintin. **8 - 0 - 0 MOTION CARRIED.**

The discussion continued about setting the spending limits for the second year of projections and the Vice President had requested two years of budgets to review and both will be reviewed with the idea that the second year would be briefly reviewed but yet approved again. The capital expenditures were discussed

if they should be included with the spending limit that has been set. **MOTION** by Rep. Forrest White Rabbit to set a spending limit on enterprise capital projects and capital purchases for the upcoming fiscal year. Second by Rep. Susan Weber. **8-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Rep. Heather Cloud to rescind the prior motion that set the FY 12-13 spending limits. Second by Rep. Shelby Visintin. **6 - 1 (Rep. Susan Weber) - 1 (Rep. Jim Greendeer) MOTION CARRIED.**

The discussion continued with including the capital project and purchases by making a 10% decrease to each branch and allocating to capital expenditures.

RECESS: The Committee took a brief recess from 4:55 p.m. to 5:08 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Rep. Robert TwoBears, Presiding Officer (P)

Rep. Patrick RedEagle, Presiding Officer (P)

V.P. Greg Blackdeer (EX)

Rep. Doug Greengrass (P)

Rep. Susan Weber (5:10 p.m.) Rep. Andrea Estebo (EX)

Rep. Jim Greendeer (P)

Rep. John Holst (EX)

Rep. Heather Cloud (P)

Rep. Hope Smith (EX)

Rep. Shelby Visintin (P)

Rep. Greg Littlejohn (EX)

Rep. Forrest White Rabbit (P)

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM: Quorum is established.

Rep. Susan Weber arrives at 5:10 p.m.

MOTION by Rep. Heather Cloud to set the spending limits for each branch of government for FY 12-13 and FY 13-14 to be the same, the spending limits are as follows: General Council \$720,000; Judiciary Branch \$918,000; Executive Branch \$42,300,000; Executive Branch capital expenditures \$10,000,000; and Legislative Branch \$116,460,000 for a total of \$170,398,000. Second by Rep. Shelby Visintin. **6 - 0 - 1 (Rep. Susan Weber) MOTION CARRIED.**

ADJOURNMENT: MOTION by Rep. Heather Cloud to adjourn the meeting. Second by Rep. Shelby Visintin. **7-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.**

The meeting adjourned at 5:12 p.m. Kelley Thundercloud Recording Secretary

FINANCE COMMITTEE
OF THE HO-CHUNK NATION
LEGISLATURE
REGULAR MEETING - EXECUTIVE
OFFICES
BLACK RIVER FALLS, WI
NOVEMBER 30, 2011

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by the Presiding Officer, Rep. Robert TwoBears at 10:00 a.m.

ROLL CALL:

Rep. Robert TwoBears, Presiding Officer (P)

Rep. Patrick RedEagle, Presiding Officer (EX)

V.P. Greg Blackdeer (EX)

Rep. Doug Greengrass (NP)

Rep. Susan Weber (NP)

Rep. Andrea Estebo (EX)

Rep. Jim Greendeer (NP)

Rep. John Holst (EX)

Rep. Heather Cloud (NP)

Rep. Hope Smith (NP)

Rep. Shelby Visintin (NP)

Rep. Greg Littlejohn (NP)

Rep. Forrest White Rabbit (NP)

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM: There is no quorum.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by the Presiding Officer, Rep. Robert TwoBears at 10:13 a.m.

ROLL CALL:

Rep. Robert TwoBears, Presiding Officer (P)

Rep. Patrick RedEagle, Presiding Officer (P)

V.P. Greg Blackdeer (EX)

Rep. Doug Greengrass (P)

Rep. Susan Weber (P)

Rep. Andrea Estebo (EX)

Rep. Jim Greendeer (P)

Rep. John Holst (EX)

Rep. Heather Cloud (P)

Rep. Hope Smith (10:35 a.m.)

Rep. Shelby Visintin (P)

Rep. Greg Littlejohn (P)

Rep. Forrest White Rabbit (P)

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM: Quorum is established.

OPENING PRAYER: Representative Jim Greendeer asked for a moment of silence.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: MOTION by Rep. Jim Greendeer to **APPROVE** the agenda as presented. Second by Rep. Greg Littlejohn. **8-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.**

Rep. Hope Smith arrives at 10:35 a.m.

Presentations:

Review of RFP ~ Becky Albert, Brian Van Stippen

The Finance Director, Becky Albert, reviewed the RFP selection process for the financial advisor. In the next three to five years, the Nation will need to identify the cash flow, revenue generated, in order to make a determination on how much to borrow for all of the facilities. The financial advisor will be assisting with the proper planning for capital expansions

and projects. Five firms responded to the RFP with the top two vendors presenting today, due to the gap in scores between the 2nd and 3rd choice, they went with the top two.

Brian Van Stippen, tribal attorney, gave a brief update on the TED bonds status that was originally approved by the Legislature. It was determined to establish a strategic financial plan prior to attempting to obtain funding for Department of Business projects.

A capital list from the Department of Business was requested. They will provide the list to the Legislature and currently it is a wish list and each facility is at different stages. A capital policy is currently being drafted that the Department of Business will follow.

Some of the Committee members had questions. The fees associated to pay for the vendor will come from the Department of Business. Some of the fees may also be a part of the financing package and to ask each about their fee. One of the vendors was currently selected by the Nation for the Children's Trust Fund and a question was raised if that was a conflict for them.

The vendor chosen will have to know all of the Nation's investments. The credit rating for the Nation may have to be updated. The vendor chosen will negotiate with the lender/financial institutions and get the best rates and determine which lending vehicle to use. They will also be assisting with the strategic planning.

Each member of the panel was asked to provide a brief explanation as to who they would recommend for the Nation. The following gave their responses: Rose Adams, Scott Marecek, Clint Beard, Casey Osborne, and Sami Chambers.

RECESS: MOTION by Rep. Doug Greengrass to recess for lunch until 12:30 p.m. Second by Rep. Heather Cloud. **9-0-0 MOTION CARRIED.**

The meeting recessed at 11:13 a.m.

The meeting was called back to order at 12:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Rep. Robert TwoBears, Presiding Officer (P)

Rep. Patrick RedEagle, Presiding Officer (EX)

V.P. Greg Blackdeer (EX)

Rep. Doug Greengrass (P)

Rep. Susan Weber (P)

Rep. Andrea Estebo (EX)

Rep. Jim Greendeer (P)

Rep. John Holst (EX)

Rep. Heather Cloud (P)

Rep. Hope Smith (12:37 p.m.)

Rep. Shelby Visintin (P)

Rep. Greg Littlejohn (P)

Rep. Forrest White Rabbit (P)

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM: Quorum is established.

Rep. Hope Smith arrives at 12:37 p.m.

Presentations:

Sovereign Advisors ~ Jeffrey Lamb, Courtney Monteiro

Individuals from Sovereign Advisors distributed a handout and reviewed the information on what services they could offer the Nation. A flat fee was proposed over six months with a cap on expenses.

RECESS: The Committee took a brief recess from 1:25 p.m. to 1:35 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

Rep. Robert TwoBears, Presiding Officer (P)

Rep. Patrick RedEagle, Presiding Officer (EX)



NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION POW-WOW

Joseph J. White
Post 442



Monroe County Fairgrounds (Yellow Bldg) Tomah, WI

7:00 PM - 12:00 Pow-Wow • Doors Open 4 PM, Meal at 5-6 PM

**Dance Specials Raffles Dancer Honorariums
Princes and Ambassador Contest (13-17 yrs old)**

MC: Terry Fiddler Arena Director: Keith Smith

Legion Post: Joseph J. White American Legion Post #442

Host Drum: Pipestone (2011 Nammy Award Winning Group of the Year) & Bearheart

Invited Drums: Wisconsin Dells, Winnebago Sons & Wazijaci

Youth Drums: Snowdrift Mountain & Ho-Chunk Station

Dancers, Head Singers & Raffle Participants please have your Social Security card present.

Find us on Facebook  Tomah New Year's Eve Celebration Pow-Wow

Absolutely no alcohol or illegal substances allowed, all attendants and participants are responsible for their own personal property. Parents and/or guardians must attend to their children.



Ho-Chunk Wa ruc hiweni 2012 Food Distribution Tailgate Distribution dates

	CLOSED FOR INVENTORY	NIZRA Wis Dells Wednesday	PACCINAK Wittenberg Wednesday	AHU CO Tomah Wednesday	CEX HACI Nekoosa Wednesday	CLOSED For Holidays
JANUARY: 2012	31st	4th	11th	18th	25th	New Year's Day
FEBRUARY: 2012	29th	1st	8th	15th	22nd	
MARCH: 2012	30th	7th	14th	21st	28th	
APRIL: 2012	30th	4th	11th	18th	25th	Good Friday, Easter
MAY: 2012	31st	2nd	9th	16th	23rd	Memorial Day
JUNE: 2012	29th	6th	13th	20th	27th	
JULY: 2012	31st	3rd	11th	18th	25th	4th of July
AUGUST: 2012	31st	8th	15th	22nd	29th	
SEPTEMBER: 2012	28th	5th	12th	19th	26th	Labor Day
OCTOBER: 2012	31st	3rd	10th	17th	24th	
NOVEMBER: 2012	30th	7th	14th	21st	28th	Veterans Day, Thanksgiving, Ho-Chunk Day
DECEMBER: 2012	31st	5th	12th	19th	26th	Christmas

Participants can apply for food at any location.

Fastest service is generally at the warehouse.

Located behind the Executive Offices and Ho Cak Health Clinic

HOURS 8:00am-4:30pm MONDAY-FRIDAY(Wednesday-tailgates)
TELEPHONE 1(800)284-9466 or (715)284-7461 FAX (715)284-5620
E-MAIL Andrew.Rave@ho-chunk.com
HO-CHUNK NATION FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM
P.O. BOX 202, 6562 GUY ROAD, BLACK RIVER FALLS WI 54615
<http://www.fns.usda.gov/fdd/programs/fdpi/>

The following individual applicants have met the requirements of the HO-CHUNK NATION CODE (HCC) TITLE 2 – GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 7 – TRIBAL ENROLLMENT AND MEMBERSHIP CODE, Enacted by Legislature: October 16, 2007 in accordance with the Constitution of the Ho-Chunk Nation and the Tribal Enrollment and Membership Code. The Enrollment Officer will certify a Notice of Eligibility for Membership and will publish such Notice in the Nation's newsletter and on the Nation's website. Upon publication a sixty (60) Day notice period begins. The Notice of Eligibility for Membership must include the Applicant's name, date of birth, Base Roll ancestry, Ho-Chunk Blood and parent. There will be an exemption for adoptions. Pursuant to Wisconsin and other States' Laws certain information will be neither published nor released. **This determination may be appealed to the Committee on Tribal Enrollment (contact the Office of Tribal Enrollment) by any adult (18 years and older) enrolled Ho-Chunk Nation Member within sixty (60) Days after the date on which the Office of Tribal Enrollment publishes Notice of Eligibility for Membership.** EOPUB12092011

APPLICANT NAME	DATE OF BIRTH	BLOOD QUANTUM	ANCESTOR	FATHER	MOTHER
ANTONIO, Gabriella Junetta	10/31/2008	1/4	A Hoo Kee Na Win Kah Ella Manly-Mallory 1901 - #01314	Non – MEMBER	Owenita Rose WhiteEagle
ANTONIO, Olivia Faith	09/18/2003	1/4	A Hoo Kee Na Win Kah Ella Manly-Mallory 1901 - #01314	Non – MEMBER	Owenita Rose WhiteEagle
ANTONIO, Roberto Domingo	10/26/2006	1/4	A Hoo Kee Na Win Kah Ella Manly-Mallory 1901 - #01314	Non – MEMBER	Owenita Rose WhiteEagle
BAKER, Lantana Gashkawana	08/21/2010	1/4	War Con Jar Nick Nic Kaw Young Thunder 1881 - #00090	Non – MEMBER	Sondra Amelia Martinez
BAKER, Renzo Whirling Snow	02/18/2009	1/4	War Con Jar Nick Nic Kaw Young Thunder 1881 - #00090	Non – MEMBER	Sondra Amelia Martinez
CARLTON, Ryley Scott	08/18/2005	1/4	Ka Ra Cha Sep Ska Kah Jesse George Littlegeorge, Sr. 1901 - #00466	Jayce Robert Littlegeorge	-----
CLEVELAND, Natalya Rose Ann	05/21/2009	93/128	Cha Wak Ja Xi Gah Will Greendeer 1901 - #00080	Benjamin David Cleveland	Lena LaBear Funmaker
DECORAH, Angelina Lorrain	12/26/2005	1/4	Hoonk Mon E Kah Ed W. Decorra 1901 - #00254	-----	Sheena Alexandra Decorah
DECORAH, Davin Michael	08/04/2006	1/2	Wa Con Cha Cho Nee Kah William Decorie 1881 - #00486	Frederick Decorah II	-----
FUNMAKER, Cyrus Paul	05/03/2011	3/4	Wojh Tchaw He Ray Kah George Funmaker, Sr. 1881 - #00328	Derris Donald Funmaker	Brianna Amelia Littlegeorge
HARRISON, Kelsey Elizabeth	05/21/1991	1/2	Thomas Harold Harrison N – 1910 - #00433	Gregory Scott Harrison	Non – MEMBER
KAHALEWAIKE, Kiona Mae	11/16/2010	1/4	Mon Cha Qua Nee Kah Elijah Whitewing 1901 - #00195	-----	Gloria Faye Whitewing
KASUN, Sky Alexa	01/07/2009	63/128	Cha E Nee Kee Kaw Charles Carlo Smith N – 1910 - #00013	-----	Melanie Fawn Smith
LITTLEJOHN, Brendan Howard	01/10/2010	43/64	Son Nik O He Way Kah George Cloud 1901 - #00149	Collin James Cloud	Yo Na Montelongo
McINTOSH, Zara Marie Snake	03/09/2003	1/4	Wa Kon Chaw Neek Kah George Winneshiek 1881 - #00432	-----	Jessica Ann Snake
McLAIN, Christian Charles Everett	06/28/1998	1/2	Cha E Nee Kee Kaw Charles Carlo Smith N – 1910 - #00013	Mitchell Christian Smith	-----
MERILLAT, Brenton Scott	07/21/2011	1/4	Ka Ra Cha Sep Ska Kah Jesse George Littlegeorge, Sr. 1901 - #00466	-----	Tasha Marie Kmetz
MILLER, Alaina Mae	00/00/0000	1/4	CONFIDENTIAL	CONFIDENTIAL	CONFIDENTIAL
MINNIECHESKE, Jorjia June	07/18/2011	1/4	Mon Cha Qua Nee Kah Elijah Whitewing 1901 - #00195	-----	Maribeth Violet Whitewing
NAUMANN, Hailey Breana	08/04/1996	1/4	Chau Zap Kah Black Deer 1881 - #00174	-----	Colleen Mae McNamee
NAUMANN, Hannah Elena	08/18/1992	1/4	Chau Zap Kah Black Deer 1881 - #00174	-----	Colleen Mae McNamee
PENLAND, Jerrod Everett	08/18/2011	1/4	Wau Kon Chaw Jho Noo Kah Frank Winneshiek 1881 - #00395	Michael Todd Penland	-----
RAVE, George Rodney	08/10/2011	1/2	Na He Kaw Duncan Rave N – 1910 - #00775	Lance D Rave	Michelle Mary Greendeer
SMITH, Desceah Lucille	06/26/2007	1/4	Mau Shoo Cho Kah Edward Smith 1901 - #01137	-----	Lori Jean Smith\
SMITH, Malakai Knight	01/06/2011	87/256	Hunk Nik Cha Kah Floyd Thomas Cloud-WhiteEagle 1901 - #01085	Non – MEMBER	Athena Sage WhiteEagle
SNOWBALL, Logan Mitchell Travis	10/23/2009	1/4	Wau Soo Mon E Kah Frank Snowball 1881 - #00502	Mitchell Gregory Snowball	-----
TENDER, Sequia Nesia	09/23/1996	1/4	Ha Na Kah George Miner 1901 - #00237	-----	Ella Georgine Powless
TENDER, Sir Lawrence Maxwell	02/05/1998	1/4	Ha Na Kah George Miner 1901 - #00237	-----	Ella Georgine Powless
WHITEGULL, Jett Lincoln	03/24/2011	23/64	Beek Ska Win Kah Grace Decorra 1901 - #00118	-----	Mary Mabel Whitegull



Executive Summary of General Council Constitutional Amendments Proposed For The Upcoming Secretarial Election

1. Resolution 09-12-09B: This Resolution amends the constitution to clarify an ambiguous provision in the constitution so that the GCA has authority as a separate branch of government to directly supervise GCA employees; it also provides constitutional authority to select hire, manage and supervise its own employees.
2. Resolution 09-12-09E: This is a 2004 motion that was reaffirmed by General Council 2009 to limit members of the Legislature to two, four-year terms.
3. Resolution 09-12-09F: This is also a 2004 resolution that was reaffirmed in 2009 to limit the President to two, four-year terms. (Note: Resolution 09-12-09E and F have been combined into a single resolution.
4. Resolution 09-12-09G: This resolution passed in 2005 and was revised to address the comments provided by the BIA and reaffirmed to correct a concern about the President's power to retroactively vet legislation. This provides a presidential veto that the legislature can overturn by a 2/3rds majority vote.
5. Resolution 09-12-09G: This resolution originally passed in 2005 and was reaffirmed in 2009. This provides General Council the authority to take enforcement action to ensure that resolutions are passed timely, and waives the immunity of the Legislature or Executive Branch fails to take action within the timelines provided.
6. Resolution 09-17-05I: This resolution originally passed in 2005 and reaffirmed in 2009 after receiving comments from the BIA. This resolution provides that Chief Justice must be a Ho-Chunk Nation member.
7. Resolution 09-17-05J: This resolution originally passed in 2005, and after reaffirmed the General Council reaffirmed this resolution in 2009. This resolution provides that Trial Court Judges must be elected.



HO-CHUNK NATION

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

The annual General Council is a great opportunity for all Ho-Chunk members to have their voice heard and to vote on important key issues within our government.

I realize that there is also a great amount of planning that goes into making the General Council meeting a success. Therefore, I would like to officially announce in my capacity as President, under Article IV, Section 5 Annual Meetings, "The People shall meet in General Council at least one time each year, which shall be called by the President, and at other times as provided in Section 6 of this Article. Notice shall be provided by the President for all Annual Meetings of the General Council." **Under this constitutional delegated authority, I, President Jon Greendeer of the Ho-Chunk Nation, do hereby call the 2012 Annual Meeting of the General Council on Saturday, September 22, 2012.**

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact my Executive Secretary, Kelly Jo Funmaker at ext. 1231 or by e-mail at Kelly.funmaker@ho-chunk.com.

GENERAL COUNCIL AGENCY NOTICE

GCA Vacancies: GCA has an Alternate position available in Wittenberg, WI. GCA Agents will attend a monthly meeting. In the event of an Agents absence the Alternate must attend.

If you have any questions please call Starlene Grant or Pine Giroux at (715) 284-9343 ext.1070\1075

If you are a Native American Farmer or Rancher

or the heir of one who was denied a

USDA farm loan or loan servicing

between 1981 and late 1999,

The claims-filing period is about to end.

To receive a payment you must file a claim by December 27, 2011.

For free assistance filing a claim:

call 1-888-233-5506

or visit www.IndianFarmClass.com.

Need help paying bills or other small expenses this holiday season?



Contact our qualified loan officer to review your borrowing needs.



First Nations Community Financial
320 Epoch Avenue
Tomah WI 54660
Phone: (608) 374-2104
Fax: (608) 374-2086
Email: francesca.bird@ho-chunk.com

First Nations Community Financial can help.

We offer consumer, credit repair and small business loans. We are offering a discounted interest rate for the December and January so hurry in to apply!

SUMMONS (Second Publication) IN THE HO-CHUNK NATION TRIAL COURT

State of WI. & Carole Roberts, Petitioner, v. Crystal Zeimet, Respondent.

Case : CS 11-60

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT: Crystal Zeimet

You are hereby informed that you have been named a respondent in the above-entitled civil lawsuit. This legal notice of the *Petition to Register & Enforce a Foreign Judgment or Order* is now served upon you by publication. Your written Answer to the *Petition* must be filed with the Court on or before the twentieth day from the date of the second published issuance of this *Summons*. You may request a hearing within your written response. See RECOGNITION OF FOREIGN CHILD SUPPORT ORDERS ORDINANCE, 4 HCC § 2.5. Also, you must send or present a copy of your Answer to the opposing party listed above or to their attorney of record. Failure to file a timely Answer in the time allowed can affect your right to object to the enforcement of the foreign judgment or order. *Id.*, § 2.6c.

The Trial Court is physically located at Wa Ehi Hocira, W9598 Highway 54 East, Black River Falls, (Jackson County) Wisconsin. The Trial Court's mailing address is P. O. Box 70, Black River Falls, WI 54615. The telephone number is (715) 284-2722, or toll free 800-434-4070, and the facsimile number is (715) 284-3136.

SUMMONS (First Publication) IN THE HO-CHUNK NATION TRIAL COURT

Maraya Blessingame, Petitioner, v. Daniel Eli Youngthunder, Jr., Respondent.

Case : CS 11-67

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED RESPONDENT: Daniel Eli Youngthunder, Jr.

You are hereby informed that you have been named a respondent in the above-entitled civil lawsuit. This legal notice of the *Petition to Register & Enforce a Foreign Judgment or Order* is now served upon you by publication. Your written Answer to the *Petition* must be filed with the Court on or before the twentieth day from the date of the second published issuance of this *Summons*. You may request a hearing within your written response. See RECOGNITION OF FOREIGN CHILD SUPPORT ORDERS ORDINANCE, 4 HCC § 2.5. Also, you must send or present a copy of your Answer to the opposing party listed above or to their attorney of record. Failure to file a timely Answer in the time allowed can affect your right to object to the enforcement of the foreign judgment or order. *Id.*, § 2.6c.

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2011 SOBRIETY POWWOW

December 31 7pm to 1am
Meal @ 5:30pm AODA Countdown @ 6pm
MENOMINEE INDIAN HIGH SCHOOL GYM

Featuring Menominee Tribal Dances

All Dancers and Visitors Welcome

Watch the powwow live at WWW.LIVESTREAM.COM/SOBRIETY

Head Dancers
Curt Moon & Laura Doud

Head Youth Dancers
Mike Fish & Chaunee Doud

Head Veteran Dancers
Bill Waubanasum & Jamie Awonohopay

Host Drum:
WOLF RIVER

Invited Drums Only:
Str8 Across
Wind Eagle
Smokeytown
Lake Delton

~Food & Crafts ~ SPOT DANCES ~ Door Prizes ~ Youth Groups ~ Exhibition Dancing~

Organized by:
Maehno-Pematesen, MTPD
MISD, Maehnowesekiyah,
YDO, Menominee Tribal School,
Community Resource Center, and
Probation Office

Start your New Year in a Healthy Way
No Drugs or Alcohol permitted
-Not responsible for any loss, damage, or
personal injury of any kind

Artwork by:
Celine Martin, 7th Gr MTS

Happy Holidays from First Nations Community Financial

*Because the ones we serve are the Foundation
of our success, it's a pleasure this holiday
season to say "Thank You" as we wish you
a year of happiness and success!*

Season's Greetings,

FNCF Staff:
Leland Fulwilder, Francesca Bird, Allyson Schmitz
& Nicole Skenandore
FNCF Board of Directors:
Becky Albert, Rose Adams, Jeff McDonald, Clint Breed,
Felicia White, Patti Lowe-Ennis and Kristian Finrock

District One Community Center

PINAGA TOURNAMENT



Come and join the fun at the
District One Community Center!!

Pinaga Tournament on Wednesday, January 18, 2012
at 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM.

If anyone wants to learn or have a refresher on how
to play, we will be holding a Pinaga clinic on
Wednesday, January 11, 2012 from
6:00pm—8:00pm at District One Community Center

Contact Derris or Melissa: 715-284-0905

CASH PRIZES

1ST PLACE-\$200.00
2ND PLACE-\$150.00
3RD PLACE-\$100.00
4TH PLACE-\$50.00

District One Community Center

Shape Shifters

Men's 16 and Older Category

\$20.00 Registration fee. Winner takes all.

Women's 16 and Older Category

\$20.00 Registration fee. Winner takes all.

First Weigh-in will be Friday, January 6, 2012 You must have your registration fee
before you can weigh in.

Last weigh-in will be Friday, March 16, 2012 .

Winners will be announced on Monday, March 19, 2012

Weigh-in Schedule for Wednesday, January 6, 2012

6:00 AM—9:30 AM District One Community Center

10 AM—10:30 AM TOB

10:45 AM—11:15 AM Social Service Building

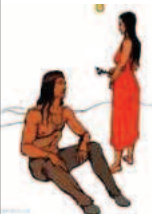
11:30 AM—11:30 APM Tribal Courts

1:00 PM—1:30 PM MPC Hotel

1:45 PM—2:15 PM TAU

3:00 PM—3:30 PM—Election Board Office

4:00 PM—9:00 PM District One Community Center



CONTACT MELISSA OR DERRIS AT 715-284-0905

being
SOBER
is cool

DODGEBALL

BOARDGAMES

SOCCER

WII GAMES

BASKETBALL

VOLLEYBALL

Introducing

SOBER
SATURDAY NIGHTS
come kick it at **KEVA.**

For more information,
Join the Facebook group

"Kick it at KEVA"

email: tennischik007@hotmail.com

FREE

Pizza & soda

provided by the

Ballweg Family

of dealerships

date

17 Dec 2011

14 Apr 2012

time 7-10pm

21 Jan 2012

19 May 2012

10 Mar 2012

open to all area 7th-12th grade students

8312 Forsythia Street, Middleton, WI / 608 662-7529 / www.kevasports.com

KeVa
sports center
YOUR PLACE TO PLAY.

The Madison Youth & Learning Center (MY&LC) will be providing transportation to the SOBER SATURDAY NIGHT event on December 17th. Please contact our center at 608-242-1640 or email annette.crowder@ho-chunk.com if you have middle or high school students that would like to attend. This is a healthy and fun way for your students to spend a Saturday night. MY&LC provides advocacy and assistance with school academics while encouraging healthy lifestyles and preservation of their cultural and traditional ways to enrolled Ho-Chunk students in kindergarten to 12th grade. MY&LC supports students in Madison, Cottage Grove, Deforest, Fitchburg, McFarland, Middleton, Oregon, Stoughton, Sun Prairie, Verona and Waunakee.

District One Community Center

Elder social

THURSDAY

1/12/12

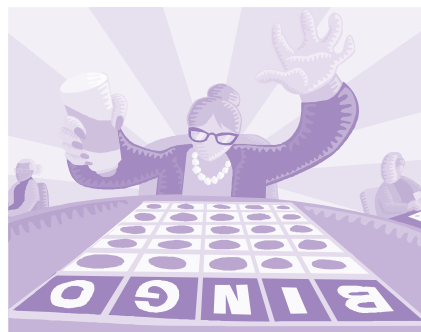
10:00 AM

Come and join the fun!!!

Bingo

Lunch

Feel Free to Bring a Prize to Share
55 and Older



Congratulations

Submitted by the
BRF Athletic Department

I would like to congratulate and thank Katie Pettibone, Zayta Thundercloud, and Lydia Cloud for their hard work and dedication to the varsity volleyball team. As part of the volleyball team, these girls demonstrated a commitment to their coaches, teammates, and our program. They also demonstrated commitment to academics, maintaining their grades to be eligible to play. All three are a great example of a student-athlete.

Katie finished her second year as a member of the varsity volleyball team. Katie is a versatile player. She played outside hitter, right side hitter, served, and played in the back row as a serve receiver and defensive player.

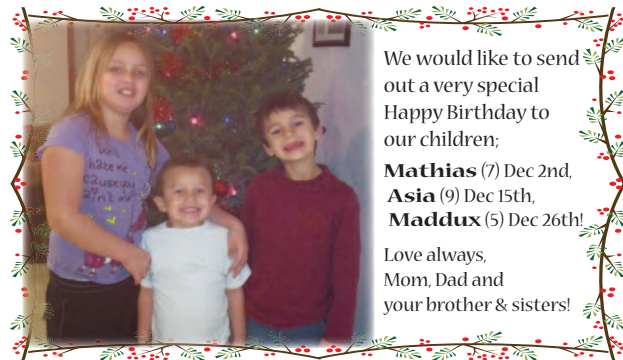
Zayta has been in the volleyball program for three years. She completed her first season as a member of the varsity team. Zayta played as a right side hitter and secondary setter.

Lydia also completed her first season as a member of the varsity volleyball team. Lydia was perhaps the most improved player on the team. Lydia played as an outside hitter and defensive specialist. She finished the season as the team's second leading hitter with 88 kills in conference. Lydia was voted onto the Honorable Mention All-Conference team.

Weho Toth began running Cross Country as a 6th grader and recently completed her 7th season in our program. She also is an accomplished swimmer and also participates in Track and Field. Weho is dedicated to her training and consistently gives a great effort for the team. This year she served as one of our co-captains in Cross Country and did an excellent job in that leadership role. Weho is also an excellent student and is planning to attend college in the fall of 2012.



Ho-Chunk Nation Police Chief, Dan Libke takes time out of his busy schedule to donate blood at Ho-Chunk Gaming Black River Falls Blood Drive on Wednesday November 30, 2011.



We would like to send out a very special Happy Birthday to our children:

Mathias (7) Dec 2nd,
Asia (9) Dec 15th,
Maddux (5) Dec 26th!

Love always,
Mom, Dad and
your brother & sisters!



Happy 8th Birthday
And many happy returns
Rocanaz'
Stands Straight
Cordell Funmaker

From Nunu, Nini, Waicge, Mom, Choka & Gaga

Happy 2nd Birthday Eliza Myra Jo Cloud



We love you more and more each day little Miss Cloud!
Love Momma, Poppa, Doe Doe, Zahay, Sissy, Caleb



HINIGI KARAWINA

I had the privilege of taking my turn in our family's Thanksgiving dinner at our home this year and as I was preparing the turkey the Lord said to me in Ho-Chunk, "Hinigi karawina," (the Ho-Chunk Nation is invited). A personal invitation in our own language by the Creator of the Universe. Rev. 3:20 says, "Here I am! I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him, and he with me." I have done this and he's true to his word.

So I wish you special Joy and Peace this season in the truth of his coming in the flesh as a baby, the truth of all he gave on our behalf in sharing our plight and winning our ransom with his perfect sacrifice. The gift of life everlasting to All who receive.

May that gift be yours this Christmas season!

With love and respect,
Joanne La Mere
Ho-Chunk Elder

I have a few books of Hope and a few Bibles if anyone would like one.
Contact me by phone 608-253-6262.



Janet Carol Trudel

"Where the lightning strikes"
September 3, 1986 – September 25, 2011

The family of Janet Trudel wishes to say thank you to the Ho-Chunk Nation for their generous support, Lot Smith II and his helpers, Pastor Betty Baires, Hope Smith, Herman and Pat Logan, Charles and Lenora Smith, Elaine Nakai, Norbert Dick and Milwaukee Branch Office. We also wish to say thank-you to all the cooks, relatives and the Milwaukee Ho-Chunk community members for all your donations, flowers and time you spent with us. The prayers, heartfelt words and well wishes from all of our relatives, friends and community members will be cherished along with the beautiful memories of our loved one Janet.

Ho-Chunk youth marathon Runners Against Drunk Driving graduate

Marlon WhiteEagle
Staff Writer

On December 3, the 2011, fifteen Ho-Chunk Youth Marathon Runners Against Drunk Driving and two old-timers graduated by completing their twenty mile training run in preparation to compete and finish the Honolulu Marathon. The group has been running since 1999 in memory of Louella Blackdeer.

Louella's story:

Louella was a very determined teenager and she struggled with today's pressures and she had often taken the wrong path. When Louella found running, everything in her whole world changed. She became a more positive person, she worked hard to do her best, she believed in herself. The 1999 Honolulu Marathon was the first of many she said. It was her moment in life; she saw what life could be if she focused herself and worked towards her goal.

Louella along with three school friends had attended their first prom, after a festive night of fun they were taking Louella home. During this evening, they had not been drinking alcohol and using drugs. In the early morning hours on May 7, 2000 the disease of alcoholism reared its ugly head in the form of a repeat drunk driver, this disease killed Louella and her three friends. Everything Louella and her friends and their families had planned for them in life came to an abrupt end. She could have gone to college on a scholarship, she could have made the Olympic Team, and she could have.....

In life Louella often felt insecure and unwanted by her peers, she never had the chance to find out how wrong her thinking was. Almost the entire high school body came to her funeral. We honor her memory, tell her story, run for her and continue the tradition of our team of hard work and self-sacrifice. We will finish this marathon for her and ourselves. We are family and we will remember our sister.

WE ARE THE HO-CHUNK YOUTH MARATHON RUNNERS AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING.

Erwin Begay, Coach of the Ho-Chunk Youth Marathon RADD Runner's, is an Army veteran, Navajo, and husband to Faye Begay (nee Thunder), and has been coaching the group for twelve years. Begay ran the Honolulu Marathon in 1994. It was then, that he thought it would be nice to see native youth runners competing in the marathon. Begay thought running would help the youth focus on something positive. After retiring from the Army as an Infantry Instructor, Begay moved to Wisconsin with his wife Faye and began working as a Youth Coordinator. While working with the Ho-Chunk youth, Begay saw the late Louella Blackdeer running down a dirt road and was reminded of his thought when he ran the '94 Honolulu Marathon. That's the inspiration of the Ho-Chunk Youth Marathon Runners.

Begay's Assistant Coach, Lani Blackdeer, is the mother of Louella Blackdeer. Louella and five other Ho-Chunk youth comprised the first group of runners. Lani supported Louella's running because she saw how it made her a better person. Lani thought the running group could help youth who thought they didn't fit in (with their peers) or who were unable to deal with realities of life. Louella and the first group of runners completed the 1999 Honolulu



Coach Erwin Begay awaits the completion of the 2011 Ho-Chunk Youth Marathon Runners Against Drunk Driving 20-mile run and training. The Training Completion Stake and Plaque.

Marathon and fulfilled Begay's dream of native youth competing in the marathon.

The 2011 training began on August 27 in Black River Falls, Wisconsin, at the old Wal-Mart parking lot. The next fourteen weeks would be rigorous training to gear up for and complete the Honolulu marathon. Each runner had a sponsor to help throughout the training; providing the runners to get to each run, to provide a secure run route, to man water stations, to transport runners for bathroom breaks, and to escort them to Honolulu for the marathon. In order to participate in the marathon trip, each runner had to complete the assigned mileage per week.

The Ho-Chunk Youth Marathon Runners, coaches, and sponsors departed for Honolulu at 4 a.m. on December 7. Aqua Bamboo Waikiki served as the group's home away from home. Each morning the runners ran thirty to forty minutes. The group also participated in events such as: a Luau at Paradise Cove, a tribute to Louella, a visit to Hawaii Cultural Center, USS Arizona Memorial, a flea market, and a pasta feed for runners and coaches. The marathon started at 5 am on December 11. The day after the marathon, the runners had a photo session and enjoyed a free day to recuperate. The group arrived back to Black River Falls on December 14.

The Ho-Chunk Youth Marathon

Runners Against Drunk Driving has been a story of inspiration to many. In 2002, Coach Begay and the runners were the recipients of the Wisconsin State Legislature's Hometown Hero Award by recommendation of State Representative Terry Musser.

The story is also going to be featured in an upcoming film entitled, Blackdeer. Coaches Begay and Blackdeer are assisting in the scriptwriting by providing details and personal accounts. Adam Beach has signed on to play Coach Erwin Begay. Beach met with Begay when he visited Ho-Chunk communities in May 2010. Beach said he looks forward to returning to the area to shoot the film. Begay said the producer has about 30 percent of the film's budget. It's uncertain when the production will begin, just as it's uncertain if a new group of runners will run in 2012.

In closing, Begay informed the group know that he would not be returning to coach in the future. He said, "This will be my last year. Twelve years is good. I have a lot going on; (in terms of) family commitments." During the graduation, Blackdeer said, "We don't know what's going to happen next year. We'll have to get through this (year's marathon trip), and take some time off. Then we'll make a decision later on next year."



This year's runners and their finishing times are: Ryan Decorah-5:21, Arianna Greencrow-6:44, Anthony Greencrow-6:22, Danessa White-5:34, Justice Blackhawk-4:32, Makayla Knuth-5:57, Dacai Nakai-6:24, Brianna Lamere-7:29, Debreana Pettibone-7:47, Tiana Sargent-7:24, Cyrus Ortiz-4:55, Izaak Ortiz-4:55, Elijah Smith-5:19; and the "old timers": Brittany Yazzie-4:31, Cherish Lonetree-5:44.



2011 Ho-Chunk Youth Marathon Runners Against Drunk Driving participants receive their graduation jackets and Honolulu Marathon itineraries.